

IOWA

DRAWER 12A

OTHER STATES

71.2009.083.05272



# Other States

Iowa

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

# NEW FACTS ABOUT LINCOLN

**T**HE one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, which is to be observed on February 12, has brought to light some facts regarding his career which were little known before, notwithstanding the many volumes that have been written about him. Two of these comparatively obscure features of his career are brought out by Appleton's Magazine in an article in which it is shown that Lincoln was once a corporation lawyer, and that he never saw more than a third of the territory of the United States, never having penetrated west of the Missouri river.

According to General Grenville M. Dodge, one of the few men still living who was closely associated with Lincoln before the war between the states, as well as during that struggle, Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs, the westernmost point in the country that he ever visited, was made in 1859, just 50 years ago. At that time General Dodge was an engineer in the service of the Chicago and Rock Island railroad, engaged in work on its line west from Chicago to Council Bluffs. Mr. Lincoln had been one of the legal representatives of the road in some of its litigation, and through this connection was induced to purchase some lots at the western terminus of the line. The fact that Lincoln was at one stage of his career a railroad lawyer is not generally known. If he had had to do with the politics of the present day no doubt greater publicity would have been given to the fact, and it might have been used against him, but at that time it was not considered anything against a man to serve a corporation.

Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs was made to inspect the property that he had bought, and in this connection an interesting coincidence is brought out by the Appleton writer.

"About this same time," he says, "Clement L. Vallandigham bought property adjoining the lots owned by Mr. Lincoln. The fact that they had neighborly interests in Council Bluffs does not seem to have brought them any closer in their political views, for, as is known to all, Mr. Vallandigham in his public speeches during the Civil war denounced Mr. Lincoln and the government, was arrested, tried by court-martial and sentenced to close confinement. The President, obeying the generous instincts of his big heart, commuted the sentence to banishment into the Confederate lines. Mr. Vallandigham, however, was disappointed with his reception by the Confederates, and sought refuge in Canada, so that the affairs of the two men apparently never met again.

"Mr. Lincoln came from Chicago to St. Joseph, Mo., by rail, and then proceeded up the Missouri river by steamboat to Council Bluffs. These steamboats were stern wheelers, and so rigged that they could lift themselves by spars over the shallow places and sand bars in the river. We may feel

certain that the voyage was of great interest to the traveler, for he himself devised an apparatus for that purpose. Having planned a mechanism of bellows, ropes and pulleys, he made a model of it, sent it to Washington and a patent was issued, although it is not recorded that the invention was ever utilized.

"During Lincoln's visit some of the citizens of Council Bluffs took him to a high bluff known as Cemetery Hill, just north of the town. From this point could be had a view of the country 10 miles north and 10 miles south, up and down the great Missouri river valley, and across the Missouri river five miles west. He was greatly impressed with the outlook, and the bluff from that time has been known as Lincoln's Hill. It is now in contemplation to place upon the spot where he stood, as a memento of his visit to Council Bluffs, a suitable monument or tablet bearing a proper inscription and recognizing the historical fact that from here he looked down upon the place where, by his order, four years later, the terminus of the first transcontinental railway was established.

"It is a singular fact that while the United States had spent a great deal of money in exploration for a feasible line for the Pacific railroad, the government never had examined the natural route along the forty-second parallel of latitude. All the surveys had been made and all the data obtained by private citizens connected with the Rock Island railroad, at the head of which was Henry Farnam, of Connecticut. President Lincoln, after going over all the facts that could be presented to him, and from his own

knowledge, finally fixed the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific railroad where our surveys determined the proper locality—at Council Bluffs, Ia.

"After this discussion of the location, he took up with me the question of building the road. The law of 1862 had failed to bring any capital or men to undertake the work, and I said to him that in my opinion private enterprise could not build the road. Mr. Lincoln said that the government had its hands full, and could not assume the task, but was ready to support any company to the fullest legal extent, and amend the law so as to enable such a company to issue securities that would furnish the necessary funds."



CEDAR RAPIDS REPUBLICAN

# New Facts About Lincoln

His Visit to Council Bluffs, The Most Westerly Point He Ever Visited—The War President's Brief Experience as Railroad Lawyer and Real Estate Speculator—His Invention of Device to Help Steamboats Over Snags and His Last Pardon.

The one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, which is to be observed on February 12, has brought to light some facts regarding his career which were little known before notwithstanding the many volumes that have been written about him. Two of these comparatively obscure features of his career are brought out by Appleton's magazine in an article in which it is shown that Lincoln was once a corporation lawyer and that he never saw more than a third of the territory of the United States, never having penetrated west of the Missouri river.

According to General Grenville M. Dodge, one of the few men still living who was closely associated with Lincoln before the war between the states, as well as during that struggle, Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs, the westernmost point in the country that he ever visited, was made in 1859, just fifty years ago. At that time General Dodge was an engineer in the service of the Chicago and Rock Island railroad, engaged in work on its line west from Chicago to Council Bluffs. Mr. Lincoln had been one of the legal representatives of the road in some of its litigation and through this connection was induced to purchase some lots at the western terminus of the line. The fact that Lincoln was at one stage of his career a railroad lawyer is not generally known. If he had had to do with the politics of the present day no doubt greater publicity would have been given to the fact and it might have been used against him, but at that time it was not considered anything against a man to serve a corporation.

Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs was made to inspect the property that he had bought and in this connection an interesting coincidence is brought out by the Appleton writer:

"About this same time," he says, "Clement L. Vallandigham bought property adjoining the lots owned by Mr. Lincoln. The fact that they had neighborly interests in Council Bluffs does not seem to have brought them any closer in their political views, for, as is known to all, Mr. Vallandigham in his public speeches during the civil war, denounced Mr. Lincoln and the government, was arrested, tried by court martial and sentenced to close confinement. The president, obeying the generous instincts of his big heart, commuted the sentence to banishment into the Confederate lines. Mr. Vallandigham, however, was disappointed with his reception by the Confederates, and sought refuge in Canada, so that the affairs of the two men apparently never met again.

Mr. Lincoln came from Chicago to St. Joseph, Mo., by rail and then proceeded up the Missouri river by

steamboat to Council Bluffs. These steamboats were stern wheelers and so rigged that they could lift themselves by spars over the shallow places and sand bars in the river. We may feel certain that the voyage was of great interest to the traveler for he himself devised an apparatus for that purpose. Having planned a mechanism of bellows, ropes and pulleys, he made a model of it, sent it to Washington and a patent was issued, although it is not recorded that the invention was ever utilized.

"During Lincoln's visit, some of the citizens of Council Bluffs took him to a high bluff known as Cemetery Hill, just north of the town. From this point could be had a view of the country ten miles north and ten miles south, up and down the great Missouri river valley, and across the Missouri river five miles west. He was greatly impressed with the outlook, and the bluff from that time has been known as Lincoln's Hill. It is now in contemplation to place upon the spot where he stood, as a memento of his visit to Council Bluffs, a suitable monument or tablet bearing a proper inscription and recognizing the historical fact that from here he looked down upon the place where by his order, four years later, the terminus of the first transcontinental railway was established.

"It is a singular fact that while the United States had spent a great deal of money in exploration for a feasible line for the Pacific railroad, the government never had examined the natural route along the forty-second parallel of latitude. All the surveys had been made and all the data obtained by private citizens connected with the Rock Island railroad at the head of which was Henry, Farnam of Connecticut. President Lincoln, after going over all the facts that could be presented to him, and from his own knowledge, finally fixed the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific railroad where our surveys determined the proper locality—at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

"After this discussion of the location, he took up with me the question of building the road. The law of 1862 had failed to bring any capital or men to undertake the work and I said to him that in my opinion private enterprise could not build the road. Mr. Lincoln said that the government had its hands full and could not assume the task, but was ready to support any company to the fullest legal extent, and amend the law so as to enable such a company to issue securities that would furnish the necessary funds."

While President Lincoln is remembered for his personal interest in the cases of condemned military offenders, there are not a few such cases which have never been known to the public. One of these General Dodge relates.

"While in command of the department of Missouri," says he, "I daily saw what a kind heart Mr. Lincoln had, how his sympathy went out to every one in trouble and how his great desire was to save life. The conflict in Missouri was a bitter, personal, revengeful one. I remember the day before President Lincoln's assassination a lady came to see me whose son was about to be executed for murder committed as a guerrilla. She had been to Washington to save him and had seen the president. She brought me Mr. Lincoln's card, on the back of which he had written: 'My dear General Dodge: Cannot you do something for this lady, who is in much trouble?'"

"I understood the case; that, while he would not interfere, he hoped that I could see my way to do so, and he disposed of the lady in that way. The lady, in presenting the case, supposed that card alone would pardon her son, but when I told her I would consider it, she was indignant, and left, no doubt determined to report me to the president and appeal over my head. That evening President Lincoln was assassinated. All officers holding important commands were notified in the night, so that they could prepare for the excitement that was bound to come. It was thought the crime would anger the union men in the state and cause an uprising and acts of revenge upon the rebel sympathizers. I brought into the city of St. Louis such troops as were near and issued an order suspending all business, warning both sides to remain in their houses and prohibiting any gathering of crowds on the streets. But I found that the southern people were more distressed at the great crime, if possible, than the union sympathizers. The streets of St. Louis were deserted for two days and there was nothing but sorrow exhibited on both sides.

"The lady called the next day and asked me for the card; she said she desired to keep it as a memento; no doubt giving up all hope for her son, but I did not have it in my heart, after Lincoln's death, to carry out the order of the court, and therefore commuted the sentence to imprisonment."

WRIGHT

**LINCOLN ONCE OWNED  
NOW VALUABLE FARM**

An abstract of title held by the Bankers' Life company shows the remarkable advance which has been made by properties of Iowa. This is a farm located about six and one half miles northwest of Denison in Crawford county and owned by Peter F. Jepson. The property was owned by Abraham Lincoln at the time he was assassinated. In 1892 Robert Lincoln deeded the property to Henry Edwards, who paid \$1,300, or \$10 an acre for the farm. He sold it a year later for \$1,925 to the present owner who holds the property at \$15,000 or \$125 an acre. /515-





# The Lincoln and Douglas Debates

Henry W. DeLong of Council Bluffs, Describes the Macomb, Illinois, Debate for *The Union Pacific Magazine*

By L. O. LEONARD

*Historian, Union Pacific Railroad*

IT HAS been said of Abraham Lincoln that "he had intellect without arrogance, genius without pride, and religion without cant." He became a national character almost overnight through his encounter with Stephen A. Douglas in 1858. Senator Douglas, during the early part of 1858 made a tour of the eastern states and returned to Chicago from that trip July 9. He received a wonderful reception and made a magnificent speech that

evening from the balcony of the Tremont House. Mr. Lincoln was sitting inside the hotel where he could hear it all.

Mr. Lincoln replied to that speech the following evening from the same balcony in front of the Tremont Hotel. It was this speech that gave Lincoln's friends courage that he could master the "Little Giant" in debate.

Douglas then started out to make a campaign of the state with Lincoln hot on his trail, Douglas generally speaking in the morning and Lincoln in the afternoon. This was the case up to Bloomington where Douglas spoke in the afternoon and Lincoln in the evening. The next day they met at Springfield. This was Lincoln's home but a Douglas stronghold. The day was rainy and sultry. Douglas spoke first, Lincoln following. Lincoln was dressed in a linen suit with a long tailed linen coat. A severe thunder shower drenched the crowd, but they stood to listen. Lincoln was drenched and his linen suit stuck close to him as he refused the offer of an umbrella. He stood through it all, driving home the telling points against Douglas to the delight of his friends. He expected Douglas to challenge him to a joint debate.

These meetings continued until July 24, 1858, when Lincoln sent Douglas a note suggesting they divide time and address the same audiences. Douglas did not want to debate with Lincoln, but he knew if he declined, he would lose the election.



*Abraham Lincoln.*



*Stephen A. Douglas.*

Douglas then agreed to meet Lincoln in seven joint debates, he selecting the places they should meet. The places selected were Ottawa, Freeport, Jonesboro, Charleston, Galesburg, Quincy and Alton. Two meetings were to be held in August, two in September and three in October.

Most of the people of the north viewed this coming encounter between Douglas and Lincoln with apprehension. It was true that Lincoln had, in a most convincing manner, met all the arguments of Judge Douglas, but the country generally did not know enough of Lincoln to feel any great degree of confidence in the coming encounter. But they were all anxious to hear the speeches.

It can therefore be readily understood what a thrill went over the Nation when the reports of the first speeches in the encounter were published. Lincoln had met the "Little Giant" and had skillfully, but decisively routed him.

At the time of this memorable discussion, both Lincoln and Douglas were in the full maturity of their powers, Douglas being 45 and Lincoln 49 years old. Douglas, by reason of his long service in the Senate of the United States, was recognized as one of the strongest debaters in the nation. He was a national leader of great popularity. Lincoln by this time was also a trained speaker. He had contended at the bar with the ablest lawyers of the country and he always

rather sought than avoided a discussion.

The first of these joint debates was at Ottawa, Illinois, August 21. There was a large audience numbering fully ten thousand. The debate began shortly after noon, Douglas opening. There were no formalities of introduction. Douglas had a wonderful stage presence despite his small stature, a magnificent voice, and his well rounded periods never had failed to carry his audience with him. He made

the supreme effort of his life that day.

Between this Ottawa speech and the next one scheduled for Freeport, on the 27th, Lincoln and Douglas made speeches at Galesburg, Macomb and one or two other places.

Rev. Henry DeLong, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, now in his eighty-ninth year, was living at Macomb in 1858 at the time this meeting was held. The day of the debate he was plowing corn in a field about a mile from the Macomb court house, in front of which the meeting was held. Soon after Douglas began speaking and had warmed up to his subject his big voice was heard by DeLong who was plowing nearly a mile away. DeLong, after hearing the voice quite a while, could not resist the temptation to go to town to hear the "speaking." He unhitched his team from the plow, rode one horse and led the other back to town. Tying his team he made his way through the throng until he was within ten feet of the speaker. He was too late for the Douglas speech but stood there throughout the entire time Lincoln was speaking. Of that speech he said to me: "The speech of Lincoln that day changed my politics. I listened to Lincoln with rapt attention. Before going there my natural sympathies were with Douglas. When Lincoln spoke, his wonderful personality, and his masterly and convincing array of facts carried conviction with it and I decided to vote for him."

## Lincoln Questionnaire

-----  
Name of town Council Bluffs County Pottawattamie Co. State Iowa

Date or dates when Lincoln spoke there August 13, 1859

Has a marker or monument ever been erected to commemorate his address? To com-  
memorate his visit.

If so, when was it dedicated? Oct. 10, 1911.

Is any literature referring to it, or a photograph of it available?

Postal card enclosed.

Any further information such as donor, inscription on tablet, or other data of  
interest would be appreciated. Enclosed

The Omaha News for Feb. 12, 1934 has long article  
and pictures. The library has clippings but no duplicates



PRESENTATION PROGRAM  
*of*  
LINCOLN  
MEMORIAL TABLET

*to*

THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
FORT DODGE, IOWA

*by*

C. C. CARPENTER CAMP, NO. 58  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
AND THEIR AUXILIARY

---

IN OBSERVANCE OF VETERANS NIGHT  
AND IN HONOR OF THE SOLDIERS FROM WEBSTER COUNTY  
WHO SERVED IN THE UNION ARMIES DURING THE CIVIL WAR  
COMPANY "A" 11th PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY  
COMPANY "I" 32nd IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



THE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
FRIDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 18, 1927  
at Seven Forty-five o'Clock

## PROGRAM

H. M. Pratt, *National Patriotic Instructor*, Presiding  
Miss Anna Brown, *Patriotic Instructor*, Assisting  
Mr. Vern Kramer, *Patriotic Instructor*, Assisting

### Music—High School Band

Mr. John J. Gecks, *Director*

March—Atta Boy .....*King*  
Overture—Romantique .....*Keler-Bela*  
Medley—National Airs .....*Hayes*  
Patrol—Spirit of America.....*Zamecnik*  
March—Sons of Union Veterans.....*King*  
National Anthem—"America"

High School Band and Audience

Invocation.....Rev. Victor E. Beck

Greetings from Hon. John S. Fisher, Governor  
of Pennsylvania, and from Hon. John Ham-  
mill, Governor of Iowa, and others

### Music—Quartette—Original Gettysburg

Hymn.....*Delaney-Percival*

Mr. V. B. Tennant, Mr. John C. Brown, Mrs. John  
A. Forbes, Miss Rose Brown

Mrs. John C. Brown, *Accompanist*

### Reading—Lincoln's Gettysburg Address

Miss Rae Haviland

### Unveiling of Lincoln Memorial Tablet

Miss Emily Cruikshank, Boone, Iowa, representing  
Co. "A" 11th Penn. Vol. Cavalry

Miss Jean Rutledge, Fort Dodge, Iowa, representing  
Co. "I" 32nd Iowa Vol. Infantry

Music Accompaniment—

*Violin*, Mr. Fred Daniels, *Violin*, Mrs. C. Tennant

*Viola*, Mr. Frank Taylor, *Cello*, Mr. John J. Gecks

### Presentation of Tablet

Mr. K. D. Miller, *Superintendent of Schools*

### Acceptance of Tablet

Mr. C. E. Nickle, *Principal, High School*

### Address—"Lincoln Yesterday and Today"

Reverend W. P. Clark, *Chaplain*

### Solo—Recessional .....*Kipling*

Miss Florence Edwards

Benediction.....Rev. Victor E. Beck

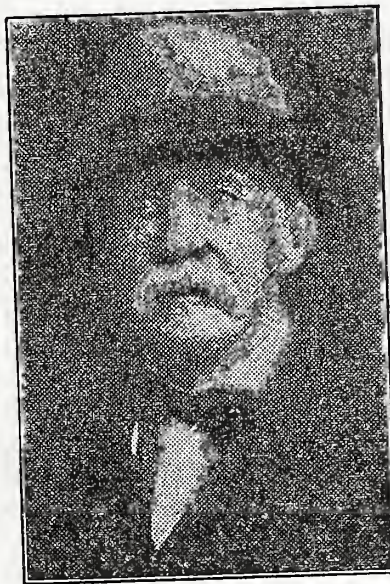
### National Anthem—"Star Spangled Banner"

High School Band

---

---

## Iowa's Greatest Living Emancipator



JOHN SHAY

---

---

### IOWA'S GREATEST EMANCIPATOR

John Shay is Iowa's greatest living emancipator. He and John Brown were in Iowa City 70 years ago. Shay and the Irish built the surface railroads, and Brown and the abolitionists built the underground railroads. Both railroads were emancipators.

In 1859 Shay & Co. had built 30,000 miles of surface railroads in the United States. The number of miles of underground railroads was unknown. At that time the locomotives on Shay & Co.'s railroads were traveling 120,000 miles every day—4 times around the world—to free the slave. At that time Shay's father and Hoover's father lived at Iowa City; both were blacksmiths and shod the cattle that hauled the freight to Iowa City from Davenport. When Shay & Co. built the surface railroad from Davenport to Iowa City it freed Shay's father and Hoover's father from shoeing oxen.

In 1859 John Brown, John Kagi, a reporter for the N. Y. Tribune, A. Stephens, a teamster, 12 negroes, 4 horses and 2 wagons came 200 miles over the underground railroad from Tabor, Ia., to Iowa City, in 14 days. In Iowa City they sold their horses and wagons, and Brown, Kagi, Stephens, and the 12 negroes went 200 miles in one day, over Shay & Co.'s railroad, to Chicago, to meet Allen Pinkerton, the great detective, and Horace White, editor of the Chicago Tribune. Pinkerton and White at Chicago, and W. P. Clark and A. Dean at Iowa City, did not see that Shay & Co.'s railroad emancipated Kagi, Brown, Stephens and the 12 negroes thirteen days on their trip to Chicago.

At that time Iowa City was the end of Shay & Co.'s railroad: at the depot were Brown cornplanters that would emancipate Dred Scott in the cornfield in front of the Dunkirk church at Antietam from planting corn with a hoe; McCormick reapers that would emancipate Uncle Tom of Uncle Tom's Cabin, from cutting wheat with a cradle in the wheatfields at Gettysburg; Howe sewing machines that would emancipate Topsy of Uncle Tom's Cabin from sewing with a needle; Morse telegraph wires that emancipated time and distance; and locomotives that emancipated Shay's father, Hoover's father, Brown, Kagi, Stephens, their horses, their wagons, the Mississippi

river, the steamboats and the deck hands, including Mark Twain and Abraham Lincoln. There was more evidence of emancipation at Iowa City than at any other place in the United States.

In 1860 Shay & Co. had built 800 miles of surface railroad from Memphis, Tenn., to Charleston, S. C. The locomotives on that line traveled 3000 miles every day; they passed 3000 telegraph poles, 50 coaches, 300 box cars; rung their bells at every crossing and blew their whistles at every station, all to free the slave. Jefferson Davis and A. H. Stephens did not see those locomotives nor hear their whistles.

In 1830 Abraham Lincoln moved by ox team from Indiana to Illinois. He was two weeks on the road and traveled 150 miles. In 1860 Shay & Co. had built a surface railroad 900 miles long from Springfield, Ill., to New York City. In February of that year Lincoln went over that line in two days to make a speech in Cooper Union. When that speech was made, Horace Greeley, head of the press in the United States, was on the platform. He did not tell his readers it would take Lincoln six months to make that trip and return by ox team, and that Lincoln, on that trip, had been emancipated by the Shay & Co. railroad five months and 26 days. He did not tell the public that Lincoln, on his way to New York City, passed 4000 telegraph poles, 1000 Irish section men, 1000 box cars, 100 coaches and 50 locomotives—all emancipators. He did not report that Geo. W. Brown of Galusha, Ill., had shipped over Shay & Co.'s railroads to the cornfields 40,000 corn planters that "made a thoroughfare for freedom". He failed to publish that the Shay & Co. railroads had hauled to the wheatfields 50,000 reapers for McCormick, who had "sounded forth the trumpet" for freedom that "never called retreat". He neglected to tell the public that Morse had 100,000 miles of telegraph wires on both sides of the Shay & Co. railroads, that emancipated time and distance. He omitted to inform the public that the Shay & Co. railroads were hauling to the homes sewing machines that emancipated the women.

Being in Iowa City 70 years ago, building the 30,000 miles of surface railroads, and emancipating his father, Hoover's father, John Brown, the Mississippi river, Mark Twain and Abraham Lincoln, John Shay is Iowa's Greatest Living Emancipator.

Sioux City, Iowa, 1929.





JOHN SHAY

(From Iowa City Press-Citizen, June 19, 1929)

## A Fact A Day About Iowa City

Three Men of Same Names

Three Johns met in Iowa City February 25, 1859. They were John Shay, John Kagi, and John Brown. Mr. Shay was a brother of Tom Shay, an Iowa City barber, and of Peter Shay, and Mrs. Frank Gerlits, Mrs. Clarence Doolittle and Mrs. John Delbrage, all of whom are Iowa Citizens. Today, seventy years later, Mr. Shay is connected with a restaurant in Sioux City. Kagi, an attorney, was an exponent of anti-slavery principles, and was a correspondent of the New York Tribune. Shay was an emancipator, too, in another way. Who John Brown was the whole world knows.

Shay had come to Iowa City in 1859 by stage from Davenport, riding with his father, a blacksmith. Kagi drove hither from Des Moines behind a team of horses, accompanying John Brown. Kagi sleeps today in a grave at Harper's Ferry. Brown died when the noose was circled about his neck by Uncle Sam's hangmen, after the Harper's Ferry tragedy. Shay, as above indicated, still serves his fellowmen in a Sioux City cafe.

Kagi's work was to "lay down the principles of the Declaration of Independence," as it has been declared; Shay's was to lay down the cross ties and rails for the locomotive which his labor brought to Iowa City—the locomotive that John Shay's father recognized as an emancipator, for it freed him from shoeing oxen that hauled freight over the trail from Davenport. The elder Shay, back in the forties, had helped McCormick build the first 100 reapers that emancipated the old-time cradlers. This contribution to modern equipment was made at Lockport, N. Y.

On March 10, 1859, John Kagi and John Brown linked their "Underground Railway" with John Shay's "overground railway." The underground line ran from Tabor to Des Moines, directed by the clergy; from Des Moines to Grinnell the newspapers guiding; and from Grinnell to Iowa City thanks to the orators. John Shay's mother was the custodian of the Rock Island railroad station—the overground railway interesting her as it interested her son. In that depot and the adjacent yards, it has been said, were George Brown corn planters that "emancipated Dred Scott in the corn field in front of the Dunker church at Antietam; Howe sewing machines that emancipated Topsy and Eliza; McCormick reapers that emancipated Uncle Tom in the wheat fields of Gettysburg; and a locomotive that emancipated the steamboats, rivers and lakes." All were emancipators, such as Brown, and Kagi and Shay—the three Johns that met in Iowa City that February day in 1859.

## Memorial for Rutledge Grave

Des Moines, Iowa, Aug 7 (U.P.)

—A campaign to raise funds for a memorial to mark the grave of Mary Ann Rutledge, mother of Abraham Lincoln's sweetheart, Ann Rutledge, is now being considered by the historical, memorial and art department of the state of Iowa.

Her body lies in an almost forgotten cemetery in Jefferson county Iowa, near the small town of Birmingham. It was here that she spent the last years of her life, a life made sad by the unhappy romance of her daughter.

Following the death of her daughter and husband in 1835, Mrs. Rutledge moved to Birmingham from New Salem, Ill., with her six remaining children.

It was here that she cherished the bitter-sweet thought that her daughter might have shared the honors and happiness which came to Lincoln. She died at the home of a daughter at Birmingham in 1878.

**NORTH TONAWANDA (NY) NEWS**  
**Wednesday, August 7, 1929**

## Memorial for Rutledge Grave

Mother of Lincoln's Sweetheart to  
Be Honored.

DES MOINES, Ia. (U.P.)—A campaign to raise funds for a memorial to mark the grave of Mary Ann Rutledge, mother of Abraham Lincoln's sweetheart, Ann Rutledge, is now being considered by the historical, memorial and art department of the state of Iowa.

Her body lies in an almost forgotten cemetery in Jefferson county, Iowa, near the small town of Birmingham. It was here that she spent the last years of her life, a life made sad by the unhappy romance of her daughter.

Following the death of her daughter and husband in 1835, Mrs. Rutledge moved to Birmingham from New Salem, Ill., with her six remaining children.

It was here that she cherished the bitter-sweet thought that her daughter might have shared the honors and happiness which came to Lincoln. She died at the home of a daughter at Birmingham, in 1878.

E. Palestine, O. Leader  
AUG. 9, 1929

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN

August 2, 1930

Miss Ethel Henneford  
Lincoln National Life Insurance Company  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

My dear Miss Henneford:

In reply to your letter of July  
20th we are pleased to send the following information in  
regard to the Lincoln Monument in this city:

Erected by the Council Bluffs Chapter, D. A. R.,  
on the exact spot where Abraham Lincoln had viewed  
the Missouri valley during his first and only visit  
to Western Iowa, August 12, 1859. Dedication cere-  
monies were held October 10, 1911. Cost \$1350, which  
does not include cost of tablet that state of Iowa  
put on. On the monument is the following inscript-  
ion:

"A King of Men  
Whose crown was love  
Whose throne was gentleness."  
This monument  
Is to commemorate the visit of  
Abraham Lincoln  
To Council Bluffs August 12, 1859.  
From this point he viewed  
The extensive panorama of  
The valley of the Missouri River  
And in compliance with  
The law of Congress  
On November 17, 1863,  
He selected this city  
As the Eastern terminus of  
The Union Pacific railroad.

Very truly yours,

*Eva R. Canon*  
Librarian



March 4, 1932

Eva L. Canon, Librarian  
Free Public Library  
Council Bluffs, Iowa

My dear Miss Canon:

I am writing you again following up a correspondence we had in 1930 concerning the Lincoln statue in Council Bluffs.

I should greatly appreciate receiving a little more information on it. The name of the sculptor, or if this is not known, a description of the work, or information as to where we may obtain a picture of it to compare with our other photographs of statues.

Thanking you very much for this, and past favors, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Director  
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

h

P. S. The enclosures may help you to understand our purposes.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN

March 11, 1932.

Miss Ethel Henneford  
Assistant Director  
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Miss Henneford:

In reply to your letter of March 4th, the Lincoln Memorial in Council Bluffs is a statue to Abraham Lincoln, not a statue of Abraham Lincoln.

May we quote from the Nonpareil for October 14, 1911:

"The monument is a beautiful shaft of granite, a tablet at the base bears the following inscription:

'A King of Men

Whose Crown was Love

Whose Throne was Gentleness.'

'This monument is to commemorate the visit of Abraham Lincoln to Council Bluffs August 19, 1859. From this point he viewed the extensive panorama of the valley of the Missouri river, and in compliance with the law of congress on November 17, 1832, he selected this city as the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific railroad.

'Erected by the Council Bluffs chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, October, 1911.'

The shaft and tablet is mounted on a heavy concrete base, which extends in a long curve to the south and is surmounted by benches of graceful design, also made of concrete. A row of brilliant electric lights runs the length of the benches and the monument, and when lighted may be seen for miles."

I trust that this will give you the information you desire.

Very truly yours,

(Mrs.) Margaret Baller

Reference Librarian

*MB*

MB:LS

15



# THE LINCOLN STAR

Nebraska's Best Newspaper

FRANK D. THROOP, PUBLISHER

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

September 22, 1931

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor  
Lincoln Lore  
Lincoln National Life Insurance Company  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

I am writing for what information you may have relative to the visit of Abraham Lincoln to Council Bluffs, Ia., in August, 1859, which resulted later in his selection of that city as the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific railroad. I am particularly anxious to know whether you, by chance, have anything to indicate that Lincoln crossed the Missouri River at Council Bluffs into Omaha on the Nebraska side during his stay there.

Several prominent pioneer Nebraskans, with whom I have come in contact, think it quite possible that he did. Apparently, however, there is no available material to indicate that he did or did not.

Because of the glamour and romance which has sprung up about the places Lincoln visited during his lifetime, and because of the close relationship between political days of the Lincoln era and early Nebraska history, we feel it would be a wonderful thing if it could be shown that he set foot on the soil of this state.

Mr. Lewis G. Reynolds, custodian of the Lincoln Museum in Washington, D. C., has referred me to you. And any possible assistance you could give me would be greatly appreciated. Mr. Reynolds also said that you will place me on the mailing list to receive your publication, Lincoln Lore. This also would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

*John Edwards*

Editorial department



Council Bluffs, Iowa

September 25, 1931

Mr. John Edwards  
Editorial Department  
The Lincoln Star  
Lincoln, Nebraska

My dear Mr. Edwards:

I fear I cannot be able to give you just the information you desire relative to whether or not Abraham Lincoln actually crossed into Nebraska during his visit at Council Bluffs.

He was evidently in Council Bluffs from August 12 to August 14, 1859.

Greenville M. Dodge in his reminiscences states that: "While he was in Council Bluffs the citizens took him (Lincoln) up what is now Oakland Avenue to a point where the road turns into Rehner Park, and he was greatly impressed with the beauty of the landscape, one of the most beautiful views in the world. You can look up and down the broad Missouri River Valley for ten miles and can look across into Nebraska and see Omaha, and from Florence to Bellevue."

This is the only reference to Nebraska which I am able to find.

I am advised that the Omaha News for February 12, 1924 has a long article and pictures of the Council Bluffs visit of Abraham Lincoln. This might help you.

I will keep your request in mind and if further information comes to hand, I will so advise you.

We are very glad to place your name on our mailing list for Lincoln Lore, which is sent gratis to about three thousand Lincoln students.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:EB

Lincoln Historical Research Foundation  
Director



HARRY P. CONKLIN, COMMISSIONER  
J. H. WEHN, DEPUTY



COMMISSIONER OF  
**Public Lands and Buildings**  
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

February 4, 1934

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director  
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sir:

On September 22, 1931, I wrote to you---as a reporter for the Lincoln Star---inquiring whether you had any information relative to Abraham Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs, Ia. in August, 1859. I was particularly anxious to learn whether any evidence indicated a possible visit to Nebraska at the time.

I am no longer a member of the Star's reportorial staff, but I still do considerable feature writing for the paper. And the possibility of obtaining a story of a Lincoln visit to the Nebraska of territorial days has constantly intrigued me.

In a recent issue of Lincoln Lore, you urged that this year research be directed to the places Lincoln visited. So in next Sunday's paper, appearing the day before his one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary, I want to tell of this incident of seventy-five years ago.

These are the facts, briefly:

Abraham Lincoln was in Council Bluffs from August 11 or 12 to 14, 1859. He made a political speech in Kansas ---possibly several speeches---and at St. Joseph, Mo., took a steamboat for the 200-mile journey up the river. Early Missouri River history reveals that such a trip required more than one day and possibly two. Among the prominent boat landings were Brownsville, Nebraska City and Plattsmouth, all along the Nebraska shore. There would have been several opportunities for Lincoln to have gone ashore for a short walk. In Council Bluffs, while awaiting for repairs on his steamboat for his return trip downstream, there would have been an opportunity for a trip across the river to Omaha, then capital of Nebraska Territory.

There is little opportunity for any extended research into this incident within only a few days' time. Possibly, however, I may obtain some information in files of Nebraska territorial newspapers or such early Missouri River records as I may find.

To illustrate the article, I shall want, in addition to a few pictures I have now, a photograph of Lincoln as he appeared about that time. Possibly the Brady portrait of February 27, 1860---unless you can suggest some other---would be the most suitable. I am not aware of your prices for such photographs, but if you will mail immediately a 5 x 7, or preferably an 8 x 10 glossy print, I will remit the charge.

I should like to know also the exact dates in 1859 that Lincoln visited the six towns in Kansas, which you named in Lincoln Lore for January 8, 1934. They were Atchison, Doniphan, Elwood, Leavenworth, Stockton and Troy.

Two other things I wish to mention in this letter. In the first place, there are several memorials of Lincoln of an unusual nature, including two stone carvings, in the new Nebraska State Capitol, which I wish to write to you in detail about within the next few weeks.

And then, I wish to have my address on your mailing list for Lincoln Lore changed from the Editorial Department of the Lincoln Star to my home address, 719 South Sixteenth Street, Apartment 7, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Sincerely,



John Edwards  
719 South Sixteenth Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska



February 6, 1934

Mr. John Edwards  
719 South Sixteenth Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska

Dear sir:

In response to your letter concerning the towns Lincoln visited in Kansas I am quoting from Paul Angle's book "Lincoln 1854 - 1861:

"Thursday, Dec. 1, 1859--After spending some time there (St. Joseph, Mo.) they proceed to Elwood, where Lincoln is to speak. In the evening he addresses an audience in the dining room of the Great Western Hotel. He spends the night in Elwood.

Friday, Dec. 2, 1859--At Troy Lincoln speaks to about forty people gathered in the court house. From Troy a committee takes him to Doniphan, where he also speaks. He is then escorted to Atchison, and taken to the Massasoit House. In the evening he speaks at the Methodist Church.

Saturday, Dec. 3, 1859--Lincoln reaches Leavenworth at two o'clock in the afternoon. A procession meets him as he arrives, and escorts him through the town to the Mansion House. Reaching there, the crowd gives "three long and loud cheers" for Lincoln. In the evening he speaks at Stockton's Hall.

Sunday, Dec. 4, 1859--On the....Sabbath Mr. Lincoln confined himself to the house in company and association with a few particular friends.'

Monday, Dec. 5, 1859---A correspondent of the New York Tribune, writing eight months afterward, described Lincoln's day (in Leavenworth):

Mr. John Edwards

- 2 -

February 6, 1934

"Monday morning found him on the alert... He was to be found on the street, in offices or workshops, and took especial delight in familiarizing himself with our people, their pursuits and convictions. In the afternoon he delivered another speech to an immense audience."

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 1859--Lincoln remains for the election, held on this day."

We trust this information will help you with your Lincoln story.

Your address is being changed on the Lincoln Lore mailing list as you requested.

Very sincerely,

Ellen Herendeen, Asst. Editor  
LINCOLN LORE

P.S. Dr. Warren is on an extended speaking tour in the east and will not return before February 24.

E.H.



March 22, 1935

Mr. John Edwards  
505 S. 14th Street  
Orlo Apartments B4  
Lincoln, Nebraska

My dear Mr. Edwards:

I certainly want to thank you for the many courtesies which you extended to me during my visit to Lincoln and I hope you will feel that the enclosed copy of Lincoln Lore, which discusses the Lincoln influences about the capitol, is fair appraisal of the contribution made by the many Lincoln items.

Thank you very much for the use of your papers and they are being returned to you under separate cover.

I hope you have now recovered from the very severe cold you had when I was in Lincoln.

Very truly yours,

LAW:LH  
Enc.

Director

March 14, 1940

Mr. Remley J. Glass  
Mason City, Iowa

My dear Mr. Glass:

Thank you very much for your suggestion on the proposed Lincoln Lore touching upon Lincoln's real estate other than that which he owned in Springfield. I like the suggestion very much and some time in the near future I am sure we will be able to prepare a Lincoln Lore on that subject.

Very truly yours,

LAW:PW  
L.A. Warren

Director



LAW OFFICE OF  
REMLEY J. GLASS  
ATTORNEY  
MASON CITY, IOWA

March 11, 1940

Lincoln Lore  
Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Gentlemen:

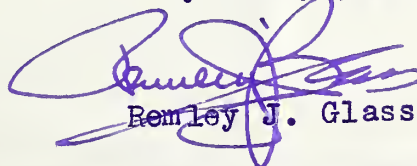
For a number of years, I have been on your mailing list for Lincoln Lore and have appreciated it very much.

Recently I have been doing a little historical research in reference to the State of Iowa and in doing so, I have come across a reference to Lincoln's ownership of real estate in Council Bluffs and reference to the "Lincoln Farm" in Crawford County, Iowa, together with the suggestion that his warrant for services in the Black Hawk War was also used to obtain some land in Tama County, Iowa, although I have not been able to verify this last statement. I would personally appreciate it very much if sometime in Lincoln Lore you would give the data in reference to his ownership of real estate other than the homestead, Lincoln House in Springfield.

If you are interested in this, I think you can get certain information in reference to Council Bluffs from Honorable O.J. Pruitt, Curator of the Pottawattamie County Historical Society, there.

Again thanking you for Lincoln Lore, I am

Very truly yours,



Remley J. Glass

RJG/jd

# Abraham Lincoln Played Part in History of Iowa

On Abraham Lincoln's birthday today, students of Iowa history like to recall the events of his life which connect him with the history of this state.

There are a number of them, and one of the most important was his contribution to the history of railroading in Iowa.

Lincoln in 1859 stopped at Council Bluffs and met Grenville M. Dodge, who had just completed extensive railroad surveys westward.

## Union Pacific Terminal.

After he was elected president, Lincoln was confronted with the problem of locating the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific. He remembered his visit to Council Bluffs when congress passed the act providing for a transcontinental railroad and promptly called General Dodge to the White House for a conference.

This and the earlier meeting with General Dodge perhaps more than anything else, fixed Council Bluffs as the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific.

As an able railroad lawyer, one of Lincoln's most famous railroad cases dealt with the wreck of a steamboat on the Rock Island bridge in 1856. This was the first railway bridge to cross the Mississippi.

Lincoln visited Iowa on the occasion of his defense of the Rock Island Bridge Co. against the steamboat interests in 1857.

In the court Lincoln asserted "one man has as good a right to cross a river as another has to sail up and down it."

## Supreme Court Reversal.

Although the jury disagreed, the case was taken to the United States supreme court, where a ruling was given that the bridge could remain because of the rights which Lincoln had emphasized.

A third fact of interest about Lincoln in Iowa history is that he owned land in this state. Having served in the Black Hawk war, he was granted three land warrants, and selected two of them in Iowa.

One was a 40-acre improved



Abraham Lincoln.  
Appeared in Iowa Court.

tract in Tama county. The other was a 120-acre tract in Crawford county.

He also acquired several small parcels of land in and near Council Bluffs in 1859 as part of a business transaction. After his death the Iowa property was sold by Lincoln's heirs.

In 1859 Lincoln spent a day and a night at the Julien house at Dubuque. He also visited Burlington to give a speech in 1858.

While still an attorney at Springfield, Ill., he was invited to speak at Keokuk but declined, stating that he already had neglected his law practice by speech-making to such an extent that he would go broke if he didn't get down to work.

## Tama County Historical Society Exhibit Has New Additions

*Toledo, Ohio*  
A wool shawl brought to Iowa in 1852 by J. P. Wood of Perry township, and used for years in the home of R. C. Wood of Perry township, loaned by him to Historical Society.

A printed and beautifully bound book "Service Record World War II of Montour and Community". Gift of a friend.

Copy of an Abstract of the forty acres granted to Abraham Lincoln in Tama County, in Howard township, 1854. Gift of Benson and Runkle Abstract Firm.

A framed photograph of the plat of forty acres of Tama County land first owned by Abraham Lincoln in 1854, prepared and given to the Historical Society by their Vice-President L. P. Marsh and secretary-treasurer, E. A. Benson of Toledo.

A water color painting of "Indian Reed Mat Weaving", and of a "5 Year Old Dancer" by the artist Charles Pushetonequa R 2, Tama.

"Annals of Iowa" for 1949-1950 magazine of the Iowa State Department of History and Archives Des Moines and ten years monthly issues of "The Palimpsest Magazine" and "News For Members", and the quarterly issues of "Iowa Journal of History" published and donated by The State Historical Society of Iowa, at Iowa City.

Home made mouse trap invented and donated to Society by John W. Dolash.

*Des Moines Register, 2/12/51*



## Recall When The Lincolns Lived in Iowa

By Robert Barewald  
(Register Staff Writer)

MOUNT PLEASANT, IA. — James Burd, 85-year-old retired Mount Pleasant business-



BURD

man, remembers the time when he went to parties and picnics here with one of Abraham Lincoln's granddaughters, Jessie.

Burd has a yellowed note Jessie Lincoln wrote to him about a masquerade party they were planning to attend together more than 60 years ago. Jessie was about 20 then. In graceful, feminine pen-strokes, the cloy note said:

"Have this feather sewn on the front of your cap & I will have done likewise & I think we will have no trouble in finding each other. Come early. Yours very sincerely, Jessie Lincoln."

"She was a very good-looking girl," Burd recalled. "She was very vivacious and she liked a good time."

Mount Pleasant and Iowa Wesleyan College are rich with recollections like this of the days when Lincoln's grandchildren played and studied here.

Almost 90 years ago Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln, married pretty Mary Harlan, daughter of James Harlan, who was perhaps Mount Pleasant's most famous citizen of the nineteenth century.

### Lincoln's Friend

He was president of Iowa Wesleyan, a United States senator from Iowa, a cabinet member and an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln.

Iowa Wesleyan has a special interest in the Lincoln-Harlan tradition here. When the Lincoln blood line becomes extinct, the college will get more than a million dollars from the Robert Lincoln fortune.

Tuesday will be Abraham Lincoln's birthday anniversary.

Throughout the last quarter of the 1800s, Robert and Mary Harlan Lincoln and their three children, Mary, Abraham and Jessie, made frequent visits to the Harlan home in Mount Pleasant. This was after Harlan returned from Washington, D. C., to live here.

The two-story frame house, built about 1873, still stands on the north edge of the Iowa Wesleyan campus. The grandchildren now are all dead.

### Grandchildren Romped

One historian wrote how the Lincoln grandchildren "romped from cellar to attic" in the home.

They also went to school here, became popular among the younger set, had gay parties and dances.

The Robert Lincolns usually visited Mount Pleasant in the summer and fall, between Robert's hurried trips to and from England. He was the U. S. minister to England, and later became president of the Pullman Co. in Chicago, Ill.

Here is what Burd recalled



## Lincoln's Grandchildren Played Here

Three Iowa Wesleyan College students work on paintings in yard of the old Harlan-Lincoln home in Mount Pleasant, where Abraham Lincoln's grandchildren came on frequent visits in the late nineteenth century. The college art department now is located in the home, which the college hopes

some day to restore as a museum. From left are Betty Rae Bims, 20, Adel; Maynard Whitney, 25, Iowa City, and Mary Leith Crossett, 18, Washington, Ia. Miss Crossett and Whitney are art majors, Miss Bims is a music major.—Staff Photo by John Houlette.

about the family's visits here:

feted (in England) and Mrs. Lincoln and her daughters wanted to get away from that.

### Went on Picnics

"My crowd was one that mixed with Jessie Lincoln. The Lincolns gave parties, and a little crowd of us went out on picnics. I had a good time when I was young.

"I met Mr. Lincoln (Robert). He was pretty austere. He didn't think much of them mixing with the general public. He was polite to me, but that was about all."

Jessie, the youngest of the three grandchildren, had a mind of her own. In about 1897, she eloped with Warren Beckwith, son of a leading Mount Pleasant family and a player on the Iowa Wesleyan University (as it was known then) football team.

C. S. Rogers was an alert young Mount Pleasant newspaperman at that time. It was he who broke the story of the elopement.

Rogers, now 88, was the publisher of the Mount Pleasant News then, and with his wife, still is.

"I used to go down to the

railroad station and write

### Knew What It Meant

"I was loafing in there one evening and there was a telegram sent out that hooked up with the Lincolns. I knew what it meant, all right.

"That was my first scoop in the newspaper business."

The Jessie Lincoln-Warren Beckwith elopement caused quite a stir in Mount Pleasant, and incurred the displeasure of Jessie's parents.

Ruth Painter Randall writes in her book "Lincoln's Sons," that shortly after the marriage Robert Lincoln was quoted in the Chicago Tribune as saying: "I have not seen the young man, and I shall not extend my pardon to him."

The marriage ended in divorce, and Jessie Lincoln was married two more times.

### "Prized Possession"

William J. Petersen, superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa, has called the Harlan-Lincoln home "one of Iowa's prized possessions."

Mary Harlan Lincoln gave the home to Iowa Wesleyan in 1907, and for some years it

served as a home for presi-

Lincoln-Harlan home to its art department.

When Mary Harlan Lincoln died in 1937, she specified in her will that, should there come a time when there are no blood descendants of the family, Iowa Wesleyan should get one-third of her husband's fortune.

The estate is valued at more than 3 million dollars. The American Red Cross and the Christian Science Church each will get a one-third share.

### No Children

Three great-grandchildren of Abraham Lincoln still live in the East, but none has any children.

Iowa Wesleyan plans eventually to restore the

Lincoln-Harlan home to its

"We are hoping to get that completed and make Harlan House a museum for the historical lore of the college and in addition a museum for things pertaining to the Harlan-Lincoln tradition," said Robert Nelson, college vice-president.

Lincoln mementoes now in the college's possession include:

A fragment of the coat Lincoln wore on the night he was assassinated in Ford's Theater in Washington, D. C.

An old closet door from the Harlan home bearing the pencil-marked height measurements of the three grandchildren of Abraham Lincoln, taken in 1883.





## WITHERED BOUQUET RECALLS LINCOLN

(Continued from Page 1)

to the flag. In the course of the day the bouquet became detached and fell to the ground and was not replaced on the standard.

That night in Ford's Theater, Washington, D. C., the president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, was assassinated.

Dr. Thomas J. Saunders of Davenport, a major in Sherman's Union Army, picked up the bouquet and brought it back home with him. He pressed the bouquet and had it placed in a hand-carved frame.

It was kept in the library of the Saunders family home at 119 W. 16th St.

The doctor, a pioneer Davenport physician, was one of the founders of the Scott County Medical Society. He was also a public-spirited man. In 1857, he was a member of the second Iowa constitutional convention.

Today, the 148th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the bouquet was presented to the Davenport Public Museum to become a permanent part of the Civil War and Lincoln collections.

The gift was presented by Clarence M. Cochrane of 1510 Perry St., Davenport. He first received it in 1923, from Dr. Saunders' son, Edward P. Saunders who died in 1924.

In a letter to the Museum Board of Trustees, Cochrane said he makes the presentation in the memory of his close friend and former Museum trustee, the late Edwin Blair Lindsay.

Dr. L. H. Kornder, president of the board, accepted the gift.

**HISTORIC BOUQUET** — A. Lang Bailly, Davenport Public Museum director, examines a bouquet of roses which once adorned the first American flag

to be flown at Fort Sumter, South Carolina, after the end of the Civil War. The bouquet was given to the museum today, Lincoln's birthday. (Staff Photo)

### GIFT TO MUSEUM

# Withered Bouquet Recalls Lincoln

By **PETER GREVAS**  
Staff Writer

If a Davenport doctor had not saved a bouquet of roses in 1865, one of the most ironic stories about an American president might never have been known.

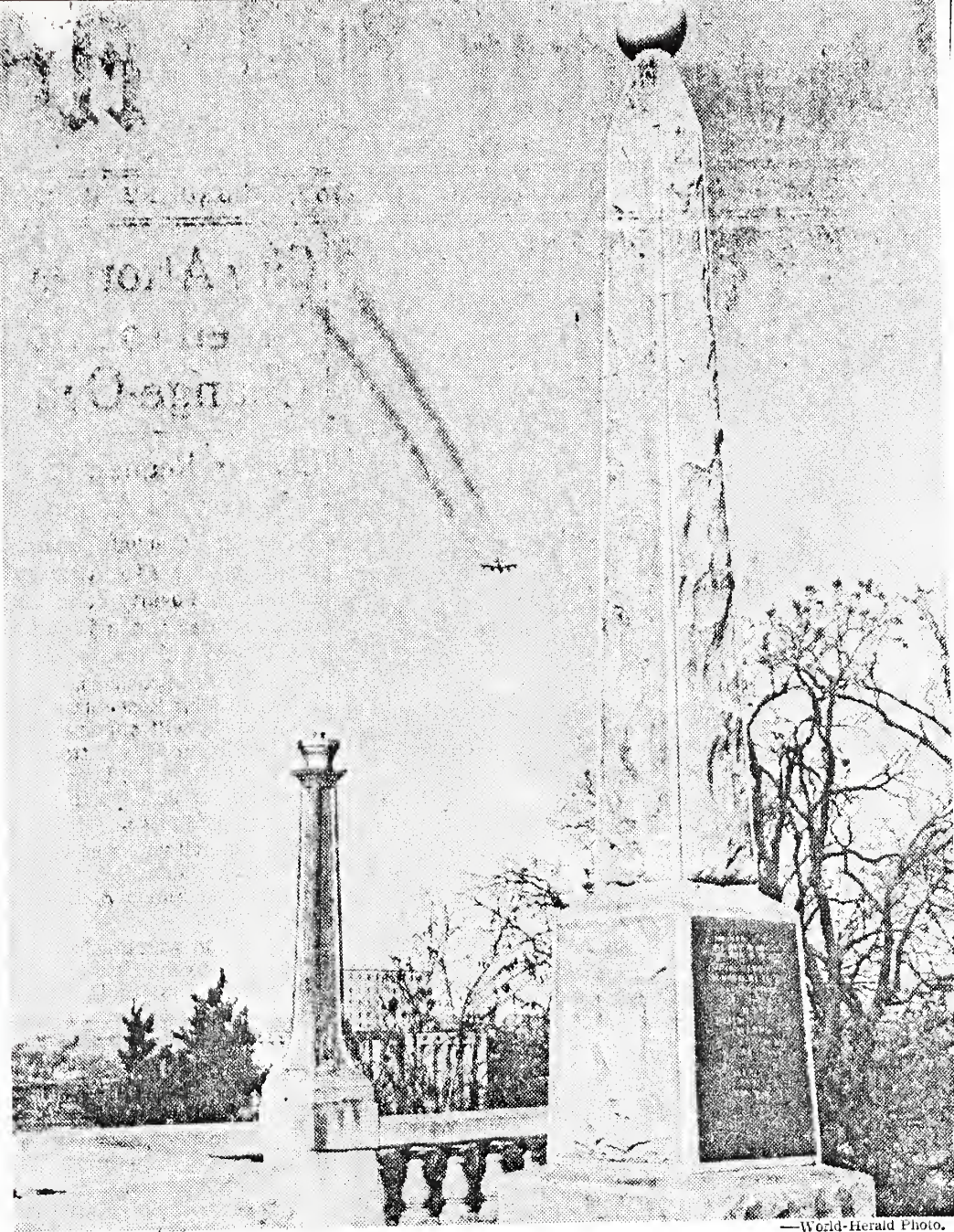
The story concerns a series of coincidental events which began the day Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina, surrendered to General Beauregard on April 14, 1861. The American Flag was replaced by the Southern flag.

April 14, 1865, just four years later, the American flag was again raised at Sumter, now a battered fortress. The terrible Civil War was over.

As part of the ceremonies a bouquet of roses was attached

(Continued on Page 2)





—World-Herald Photo.

Old and new . . . Bomber dips past Lincoln obelisk.

Evening World-Herald, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1957.

## Lincoln's Choice Challenged Area

History must write that Abraham Lincoln made a wise choice.

His selection of Council Bluffs as the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad was a challenge to the area.

And on the occasion Tuesday of the one-hundred forty-eighth anniversary of Lincoln's birthday, a visit to the point from which he viewed the Missouri River Valley upheld his judgment.

Lincoln Point, on a bluff overlooking the valley, showed a scene of mid-Twentieth Century bustle.

The winter sky was an icy blue. A chill wind

whipped past the obelisk which marks the spot where Mr. Lincoln stood.

Across the river, marking the gateway to the west, smoke from Omaha factories flowed lazily.

Grain elevators and railroad yards bespoke of the principal industries of the two cities.

The clear, high shouts of boys at play were heard. A dog barked.

The oneness of the nation—the old and the new blending together—was brought sharply to focus as a B-47, bomb bay doors open for a practice run, dipped low over the Lincoln

Memorial.

There is a misconception that Mr. Lincoln visited Council Bluffs for the purpose of selecting a site for the railroad, saw the valley and picked it.

The truth is he arrived in Council Bluffs on August 12, 1859, on a private business trip to look after some land he owned.

Bluffs residents called his attention to the city's advantages as the railroad's

It Happened in Omaha—

a nearby outdoor range. ers, a junior marksmanship north, now has 22 boy and



## Harlan-Lincoln tradition

When I made my first visit to the campus of Iowa Wesleyan College a little over ten years ago I was informed in regard to the will of Mrs. Robert Todd Lincoln. I was assured that Iowa Wesleyan was to receive, according to this will, \$1,000,000 when there was no further issue of blood.

Upon investigation I discovered that James Harlan had been President of Iowa Wesleyan College from 1853-55, at which time he was elected the first U. S. Senator from Iowa. He was in Washington, D. C. when Abraham Lincoln was elected President and soon became a fast friend of Mr. Lincoln. The friendship extended to the two families, the Harlan family and the Lincoln family. It was consummated in the marriage of Mary Harlan, the only one of Senator Harlan's four children to live to maturity, to Robert Todd Lincoln, the only one of Abraham Lincoln's four children to live to maturity. This marriage took place after Lincoln's assassination on September 24, 1868.

Robert Todd Lincoln received from his father at the time of his assassination a little over \$100,000. With this he made an estate of \$3,300,000. Robert Todd Lincoln died first and when his wife, Mary Harlan Lincoln, made her will she set up a trust fund of \$2,100,000, the interest from which was to go to her heirs so long as there was issue of blood. When there was no more issue of blood she stipulated in her will that the principal should be divided three ways: one-third to the American Red Cross, one-third to the Christian Science Church of Boston and one-third to Iowa Wesleyan College as a memorial to her father, James Harlan. At the present time the trust fund has appreciated so that it is worth \$3,000,000. When there is no more issue of blood Iowa Wesleyan will receive \$1,000,000 as a memorial to her outstanding President, James Harlan.

Naturally, shortly after coming to the campus I began to dream of restoring the Harlan House to the condition which it held when occupied by Senator Harlan but adverse circumstances in connection with the Korean War made this an impossibility. In February, 1959, however, we took our first step forward by the creation of a Harlan House restoration committee and the employment of an executive director. The house will be completely restored as soon as funds can be obtained for this purpose.



*Historic Harlan House*

Nonpareil  
Council Bluffs, Iowa  
2-9-64



Lincoln and Genl Dodge  
at Council Bluffs Aug. 1859

Railroads Are Discussed . . . by beardless Abraham Lincoln and Grenville M. Dodge in Council Bluffs back in 1859.



# The Hawkeye State Held Warm Place in Lincoln's Heart

By JOHN HANKAIAN  
Are Iowans familiar with Abraham Lincoln's connections with their state?  
Chances are, most people know much about the "Great Emancipator's" life, but not of his many associations with Iowa.

According to William J. Petersen, superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa at Iowa City, Lincoln was extremely mindful of the Hawkeye State. "He appointed James Harlan of Mt. Pleasant as his Secretary of Interior," Petersen said, "and

subsequently Samuel Freeman Miller of Keokuk to the United States Supreme Court. "He invited Annie Turner Wittenmyer, then of Keokuk, to the White House, and together they laid the foundations of the diet

soldier's life during the Civil War." Annie Wittenmyer, of course, is the woman for whom the Davenport "orphans' home" was named. She came to Davenport almost 100 years ago to establish a home.

Petersen also pointed out that Lincoln's only surviving son, Robert Todd Lincoln, married the daughter of James Harlan, and the Harlan - Lincoln home at Mt. Pleasant, where Robert T. and Mary Harlan Lincoln lived,

is one of Iowa's prized possessions. Another not generally known fact about Lincoln and Iowa, Petersen said, is that he owned land in the Hawkeye State, granted to him as a result of service in the Black Hawk War.

"The first Iowa land allotted him was a 40-acre tract in Tama County, 14 miles northwest of Toledo. His second Iowa military land warrant was a 120-acre tract in Crawford County, eight miles northwest of Denison.

"In addition to his two military land warrants, Lincoln acquired

certain lots and small parcels of land in and near Council Bluffs from Norman Judd in 1839.

Petersen stated that many Iowans have become ardent Lincoln students.

"Foremost among these was the late Judge James W. Bollinger of Davenport who willed his collection of 3,500 Lincoln books to the State University of Iowa."

The Bollinger collection is valued at more than \$50,000 and, according to Petersen, "is not only the finest collection of Lincolniana in Iowa, but is unquestionably the best private Lincoln col-

lection in the United States."

Another not-so-widely publicized fact about Iowa and Lincoln is that this state is fourth among all the states in the number of statues erected to Lincoln.

Illinois leads with 15, followed by New York with 8, Wisconsin with 7 and Iowa with 5.

Iowa's five are located at Clear Lake, Clermont, Jefferson, Sioux City and Webster City.

So Abraham Lincoln, a man who holds a place in the hearts of all Americans, is especially close to Iowans even today, nearly 100 years after his death.



# Nation To Note 155th Year Of Tall Man Who Had Land Here

The tall man who freed the slaves and once had a financial stake in Council Bluffs will be remembered throughout the U.S. Wednesday on his 155th birthday anniversary.

And, the property in which Abraham Lincoln invested \$3,000 is worth many times that amount today.

It was a hot day in August, 1859, when Lincoln taller than the sunflowers lining both sides of Broadway, checked into the old Pacific House here.

The late J. R. Perkins, a Lincoln authority from Council Bluffs, described the man who was to become president in a booklet published in 1956 to mark the 100th anniversary of Council Bluffs Savings Bank.

## Face Holds Attention

"The man's height was not the most unusual thing about him," Perkins wrote, "though his frame was angular and jackknifed almost grotesquely as he walked. It was the face that held attention, beardless at that date . . ."

As a result of Lincoln's visit here, Council Bluffs was later named the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad.

During his stay in Council Bluffs Lincoln visited the Pusey and Officer residences on Willow Avenue, he spoke at Concert Hall where the Strand Theater now stands and met a young railroad engineer—Grenville M. Dodge.

It was Dodge who took the future president to a high bluff at the top of Oakland Avenue and pointed out what was to become the U.P. terminus.

## Came To View Land

But, Lincoln did not come to town with railroads in mind. The principal reason for his visit was his property — 17 lots in what is now Riddle's Subdivision.

The property Lincoln came to see was involved in a loan he made to Norman B. Judd, who managed Lincoln's debates with Douglas, nominated him for president at the Republican convention in 1860 and was later named

ambassador to Germany by Lincoln.

Records in the Pottawatomie County Courthouse indicate that apparently the \$3,000 loan made Judd was never repaid in Lincoln's lifetime.

Deed books show the property was transferred back to Judd in 1876, 11 years after Lincoln was assassinated.

## Mostly Industrial

The property Lincoln once held today is mostly industrial and railroad. It is located between Ninth and Twelfth Avenues and Fourth

and Seventh Streets.

Present owners listed at the courthouse are Einer Juel and Dollie Passer, Green-shields and Everest, Edna F. Browder, Mason City and Fort Dodge Railway, Victor and Helen Petersen, Northern Natural Gas Co., Giant Manufacturing Co., and B&M Railroad.

The property owned by the Mason City and Fort Dodge Railway is the site of the Burlington Depot. The B&M property contains trackage of the Chicago Great Western Railroad.

# DEAR MRS. LANGE

Every year Mrs. Kay Lange, Harlan-Lincoln Home Director, guides several hundred tours through the historic house on the north edge of Wesleyan's campus. Of all the groups that pass through the house Mrs. Lange's favorite tour is her annual visit by Mrs. Neomi Murphy's second-grade class from Lincoln School in Mt. Pleasant. As part of the annual project the children write a thank-you letter to Mrs. Lange. The following letters provide a sample of a second grader's view of the historic 108-year-old home.

The Harlan-Lincoln Home, built in 1861 was the residence of James A. Harlan, former U.S. Senator from Iowa (1855) and President of Iowa Wesleyan College. Harlan's daughter married Robert Todd Lincoln, the son of President Abraham Lincoln. Robert and Mary and their children were frequent visitors to the home.



The historical Harlan-Lincoln home built in 1861.

Dear-Mrs. Lange,

I liked the stove pipe hat. And  
if you ever find out who's it is let  
me no

from Tim

Dear Mrs. Lange,

How we enjoyed the trip and  
the beautiful furniture too.  
And that hat was funny allso.



Your friend  
Brian



Mrs. Lange shows wide-eyed second graders an umbrella that belonged to Mrs. Robert Todd Lincoln.

8 of 100 letters  
given to Mrs. Lange  
Summer 1969



1984

*The Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum is delighted to share the results of our scavenger hunt through the archival attics of over 60 institutions and individuals. We appreciate their effort and enthusiasm for:*

APRIL 23

39

OCTOBER 30



\*Items from our own collection are described only when clarification is desired.

### 1. GEORGE WASHINGTON

**Books** -- An Essay Concerning Human Understanding, John Locke, 1775. From G.W.'s personal library. (Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, West Branch, IA); **Box** -- heart-shaped, made from G.W.'s first coffin, ca. 1831. (National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, Dumbarton House, Washington, D.C.); **Box** -- crystal, contains lock of G.W.'s hair. (The Society of the Cincinnati, Washington, DC); **Letter** -- dated February 21, 1793. Regrets sent to party hostess, due to death of nephew. Black wax seal signifies mourning. (Mount Vernon Ladies Association, Mt. Vernon, VA); **Plate** -- Chinese Export Porcelain, blue "Fitzhugh" border, Badge of The Cincinnati suspended from winged figure of Fame. Service purchased 1786 - 302 pieces. (Also from above); **Letter** -- dated March 25, 1793. To Ambassador to France, encouraging isolation from European conflicts. (Bob Brush, Shawnee Mission, KS); **Saber** -- one of pair placed on coffin when lying in state at Mount Vernon. (George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 A.F. & A.M., Alexandria, VA).

### 2. JOHN ADAMS

**Baby rattle** -- silver with red coral. (National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC); **Coat buttons** -- silver. (Adams National Historic Site, Quincy, MA) **Photograph** depicts J.A. wearing coat in painting by John Singleton Copley. (Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA); **Letter** -- dated January 5, 1799, to wife Abigail, concerning recent appointment of a politician: "All the actions of my life and all the conduct of my children have not yet disgraced me so much as this man..." (Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA); **Wood fragment** -- from plank used to make J.A.'s coffin. (Quincy Historical Society, Quincy, MA).

### 3. THOMAS JEFFERSON

**Spectacles** -- silver, retractable. (Monticello, Charlottesville, VA); **Stockings** -- silk, with monogram "TJ". (Also from above).

### 4. JAMES MADISON

**Porcelain fruit basket** -- probably made in Philadelphia, ca. 1830, retailed for \$3.00-3.25. (James Madison Museum, Orange, VA); **Shoe buckles** -- metal with paste jewels, missing stones filled with wax. (Also from above)

### 5. JAMES MONROE

**Penny** -- interior inscribed with The Monroe Doctrine. (James Monroe Law Office and Museum, Fredericksburg, VA); **Spectacles** -- silver, retractable, with carrying case. (Also from above); **Straight razor** -- inscribed bone handle, ca. 1820. (Ash Lawn-Highland, Charlottesville, VA)

### 6. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

**Key ring** -- ivory tag inscribed "JQA". (Quincy Historical Society, Quincy, MA); **Letter** -- dated June 17, 1824, to wife Louisa, concerning his "moping in solitude... made lighthearted by the receipt of your two letters." (Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA); **Telescope** -- brass. J.Q.A. an amateur scientist. (Adams National Historic Site, Quincy, MA)

### 7. ANDREW JACKSON

**Alamo pipe** -- carved from piece of Alamo fort, inscribed "Travis, Crockett, Bowie", 1836. Presented by veterans under General's command who avenged Alamo slaughter. (The Hermitage, Hermitage, TN); **Engraving** -- hand-colored stipple engraving, James Barton Longacre, 1820. (National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC).

### 8. MARTIN VAN BUREN

**Letter** -- dated May 8, 1829, concerns President Jackson's appointments. M.VB. was Secretary of State. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **Lithograph** -- campaign poster ca. 1840. (Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, Kinderhook, NY); **Plate** -- family china with monogram "VB". (Also from above)



## 9. WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON

**Lithograph** -- prints - one from 1846, then 1841. (Substituted after 3 months per conversation policy, Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, IN); **Sheet music** -- 1840. (Also from above); **Sugar bowl** -- campaign Log Cabin design. (Also from above); **Luster pitcher** -- campaign. (Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH); **Neckerchief** -- campaign. (Also from above); **Teapot** -- campaign Log Cabin design. (Also from above); **Note** -- dated February 15, 1795, issuing "three fills of whiskey to complete six rations for two spies." (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA).

## 10. JOHN TYLER

**Book** -- contains funeral obsequies for Cabinet members. (Dr. Lyon G. Tyler, Charleston, SC); **Coin** -- campaign item, "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too." (Also from above); **Lithograph** -- Currier & Ives, burned by Yankees. (Also from above); **Silk print** -- copy of Veto of U.S. Bank. (Also from above); **Death Mask** -- plaster cast made of J.T.'s face within 2 days of death. Mask was dashed to ground by Union soldiers during Civil War. (Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, VA, on loan from Senator Madison Marye).

## 11. JAMES K. POLK

**Book** -- The Poetical Description of Texas, Hugh Kerr, ca. 1830s. (James K. Polk Home, Columbia, TN); **Lithograph** -- (Also from above); **Card** -- signed by Mrs. Polk, 1890, (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **Treaty** -- The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 1848, ending Mexican War. Signature page, signed by J.K.P. and James Buchanan, Secretary of State. (National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC).

## 12. ZACHARY TAYLOR

**Chair** -- presented to General by veterans of Battle of Buena Vista. (Kentucky State Historical Society, Frankfort, KY); **Lithograph** -- hand-colored print by Kelloggs & Comstock, ca. 1848. (National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC)

## 13. MILLARD FILLMORE

**Buttons** -- silver, from military uniform. (Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society, Buffalo, NY); **Will** -- The Last Will and Testament, 1865, handwritten by M.F., First Codicil to Will 1868, Second Codicil to Will 1873. (Also from above).

## 14. FRANKLIN PIERCE

**Sword and Scabbard** -- gold encrusted; presented by Ladies of Concord for use in Mexican War, 1847. (New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH); **Textbook** -- Latin and Greek, Bowdoin College, 1801. (Also from above).

## 15. JAMES BUCHANAN

**Book** -- Mr. Buchanan's Administration on the Eve of the Rebellion, 1866, by J.B., documents his efforts to avert Civil War. (Wheatlands, Lancaster, PA); **Lithograph** -- Currier & Ives. (Also from above).

## 16. ABRAHAM LINCOLN

**Brush** -- for top hat, left in Indianapolis Hotel, 1861. (Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, West Branch, IA); **Engraving** -- first reading of Emanc. Proc., A.H. Ritchie engraving of Francis H. Carpenter's painting, 1866. Belonged to Herbert Hoover, hung in "The Lincoln Study" of White House during HH Administration. (Also from above); **Voting ballots** -- presidential election. (Also from above); **Photographs** -- 1) Wallet Card of wife Mary Todd by Matthew Brady, 2) Profile from original wet plate of Matthew Brady, ca. 1863, 3) Seated, from original glass plate negative, 1865, 4) A.L. lying in state, City Hall, NYC. No photographs allowed -- negative confiscated by guards and not published until mid-twentieth century. (Also from above); **Emancipation Proclamation** -- Soldier's Home Souvenir Edition, A.L.'s copy, 1863. (National Archives & Records Administration, Washington, DC); **Paperweight** -- used on desk in White House Oval Office. (The Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum, Fort Wayne, IN); **Shawl** -- wool, 3' x 6'. (Also from above); **Rocking chair** -- favorite lounging chair. (Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site, Springfield, IL).

## 17. ANDREW JOHNSON

**Articles of Impeachment** -- 1868. Because A.J. did not follow Congress' harsh reconstruction measures for South after Civil War. Voted down by a single vote. (National Archives & Records Administration, Washington, DC); **Signature Stamp** -- (Andrew Johnson National Historic Site, Greenville, TN); **Tailor's Instruments** -- 1) Shears, 2) Thimble, 3) Tailor's Goose or fat iron. (Also from above)

## 18. ULYSSES S. GRANT

**Advertisement** -- Spanish, for Havana cigars, depicts U.S.G. on horseback. (Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH); **Cigar Case** -- inlaid mother-of-pearl. (Galena State Historic Sites, Galena, IL). **Engraving** -- (Also from above); **Hat box** -- leather, U.S.G. stamped on strap. (Also from above); **Saddle** -- leather. (Also from above); **Envelope** -- signed by U.S.G. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA).

## 19. RUTHERFORD B. HAYES

**Chair** -- crafted of elk horns by Seth Kinman - shown in photograph standing next to seated R.B.H., ca. 1877. Similar chairs presented to Presidents Buchanan and Lincoln - this is the only one to survive. (Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Fremont, OH).

## 20. JAMES A. GARFIELD

**Campaign ribbons** -- (Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH); **Neckerchief** -- (Also from above); **Envelope** -- signed by J.G. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **Hair wreath** -- made by Belinda Bell Adams who ran boardinghouse in Warrensville, OH. J.G. stayed there while teaching at Williams College, ca. 1850-51. (Jim Keele, West Liberty, IA); **Pillows** -- "ear pillows" created for J.G. to relieve pain and drainage caused by bullet wound. (Lawnfield, Mentor, OH).

## 21. CHESTER ARTHUR

**Cancelled check** -- dated February 6, 1878. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **Lithograph** -- print with tintstone, Buek and Lindner, 1881. (National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC); **Windowsill** -- initials carved in C.A.'s dorm room when student at college, 1847-1848. (Union College, Schenectady, NY).

## 22. & 24. GROVER CLEVELAND

**Harpers Weekly** -- framed front page news on G.C.'s wedding day. (Grover Cleveland Birthplace State Historic Site, Caldwell, NJ); **Marriage Certificate** -- illuminated, signed by Cabinet members. (Also from above); **Wedding cake** -- 102 years old, under lace in box, 1886. Spice cake will not mold or crumble. (Also from above).

## 23. BENJAMIN HARRISON

**Card** -- signed by wife Caroline, 1889. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **Note paper** -- dated February 2, 1882, concerns militia bill. B.H. was then U.S. Senator. (Also from above); **Photographic portrait** -- (President Benjamin Harrison Memorial Home, Indianapolis, IN); **Rattle** -- campaign noise-maker. (Also from above); **Walking stick** -- presented by The Irish Protectionists of Highland, WI, 1888. (Also from above); **Poster** -- campaign. (Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH).

## 25. WILLIAM McKINLEY

**Admission ticket** -- funeral services. (Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH); **Crocheted slippers** -- handmade by Mrs. McKinley. (Also from above); **Cane** -- brass plated silver handle, presented by Union M.E. Church, Brooklyn, NY, 1901. (Stark County Historical Society, Canton, OH); **Chair** -- favorite reading chair, hand-carved elephant head armrests by Ohio craftsman, ca. 1890s. (Also from above); **Coat** -- summer-weight silk jacket, ca. 1901. (Also from above); **Tophat** -- brushed wool, ca. 1899. (Also from above); **Letter opener** -- sterling silver, engraved. (Raleigh De Geer Amyx, Vienna, VA); **Surgical instruments** -- scalpel, clamp, bandage scissors used after assassination attempt. (Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society, Buffalo, NY).

## 26. THEODORE ROOSEVELT

**Book** -- Addresses and Presidential Messages of Theodore Roosevelt, 1904. Autographed 1917. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **Branding iron** -- from T.R.'s cattle ranch, The Maltese Cross, North Dakota. (Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, Oyster Bay, NY); **Calling card case** -- Sterling silver, 1903. (Raleigh De Geer Amyx, Vienna, VA); **Pencil draft** -- first public statement after death of McKinley. (Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society, Buffalo, NY). **Photograph** -- platinum print, ca. 1898. T.R. as Rough Rider. (National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC).

## 27. WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

**Card** -- signed by wife Helen. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **Life Insurance Policy** -- 1900. W.H.T. was age 42, weight 275 lbs, height 5' 11-1/2". \$5,000 policy. (William Howard Taft National Historic Site, Cincinnati, OH); **Life Insurance Policy** -- 1897. \$10,000 policy, age 40. (Also from above); **Loving Cup** -- won by W.H.T. while president-elect, 1909. He was first President to publicly play in golf tournament. (Also from above); **Painting** -- created in oval form as rosette for campaign bunting. (Cincinnati Historical Society, Cincinnati, OH).

## 28. WOODROW WILSON

**Advertising layout and book** -- The Ordeal of Woodrow Wilson, Herbert Hoover, 1958. Only book by a President about a President. (Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, West Branch, IA); **Cufflinks and Studs** -- mother-of-pearl. (Woodrow Wilson Birthplace, Staunton, VA); **Walking stick** -- hand-carved, 1912, inscribed with favorite limerick: "As a beauty I am not a star, There are others more handsome by far. But my face, I don't mind it, For I am behind it. The people in front get the jar." (Also from above); **Print** -- "The Spirit Still Lives," Charles Dana Gibson, signed by artist, 1924. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA).

## 29. WARREN G. HARDING

**Cane** -- (Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH); **Handkerchief** -- with monogram "WGH". (Also from above); **Hat box** -- leather, with monogram "WGH", holds top hat. (Also from above); **Pajamas** -- silk, 2 pieces. (Also from above); **Photographs** -- 1) playing tuba, 2) working in newspaper office. (Also from above); **Stetson tophat** -- (Also from above); **Wallet** -- leather. (Also from above).

## 30. CALVIN COOLIDGE

**Electric Horse** -- mechanical exercise equipment set up in White House dressing room. Two speeds - "trot" and "gallop", mid-1920s. (Calvin Coolidge Memorial Room, Forbes Library, Northampton, MA).

## 31. HERBERT HOOVER

**Baseball** -- signed by Dodgers, 1964. (Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, West Branch, IA); **Fishing rods and reels** -- (Also from above); **Fur headpiece** -- presented by Boys Clubs of America. (Also from above); **Life mask** -- plaster cast molded in 1919 in Paris, France. (Also from above); **Porcelain** -- Chinese vase created during Ching Dynasty, K'ang Hsi period, 1622-1722. (Also from above); **Book** -- Fishing for Fun & To Wash Your Soul by H.H., #75 of 200 copies. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **Table** -- stood behind desk in Oval Office. (The White House, Washington, DC). Located in Presidential Gallery of Museum, behind desk in our Oval Office.



### 32. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

**Auction catalog** -- notations by F.D.R., who was collector of naval artifacts. (Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, Hyde Park, NY); **Cape** -- worn during Yalta Conference, date, February 1945. (Also from above); **Ship's pass** -- to Warren Delano, great-grandfather of F.D.R., signed by James Madison. (Also from above); **Watercolor** -- "Misty Morning", G.R. Bonfield (Also from above).

### 33. HARRY S TRUMAN

**Cane** -- inscribed silver band, "Xmas 1949 From the Palace Guard." Presented by White House staff. (Harry S Truman Presidential Library and Museum, Independence, MO); **Chicago Tribune** -- headline error on front page, November 3, 1948. (Also from above); **Hat** -- brown fedora. (Also from above).

### 34. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

**Golf clubs and bag** -- presented by W. Alton Jones. (Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, Abilene, KS); **Golf jacket** -- presented by Augusta Country Club, Masters Tournament. (Also from above).

### 35. JOHN F. KENNEDY

**Golf ball and golf tee** -- used on White House lawn. (Raleigh De Geer Amyx, Vienna, VA); **Letter** -- from wife Jackie to Herbert Hoover, thanking H.H. for get well wishes to J.F.K.. (Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, West Branch, IA); **Rocking chair** -- upholstered and padded to ease J.F.K.'s lower back pain. Used in "the second Oval Office", private office in White House. (John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Boston, MA).

### 36. LYNDON B. JOHNSON

**Cartoon** -- by Blaine. (Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum, Austin, TX); **Civil Rights Pen** -- used in signing Civil Rights Act, 1964. (Also from above); **Khaki jacket** -- worn on L.B.J. Ranch (Also from above); **Western boots** -- L.B.J.'s favorite pair, from L.B.J. Ranch. (Also from above; on loan from Lady Bird Johnson); **Letter** -- dated March 11, 1969, concerns visit to West Branch, IA. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA).

### 37. RICHARD M. NIXON

**Book and handwritten outline** -- The Real Peace, R.M.N. (courtesy of Richard M. Nixon, New York, NY); **Book plate** -- for The Real War, R.M.N. Autographed. (William Wagner, Dallas Center, IA); **First Day of Issue** -- Hoover Stamp dated August 10, 1965, signed by West Branch visitors R.M.N. and Dwight Eisenhower. (Also from above); **Vase** -- jade. Official gift from Chou EnLai (shown in photo), during 1972 China trip. (The Nixon Presidential Materials Project, Alexandria, VA)

### 38. GERALD R. FORD

**Football** -- autographed by G.R.F. and members of University of Michigan football team, 1932. (Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, Grand Rapids, MI); **Football helmet** -- leather, 1932. (Also from above);

### 39. JIMMY CARTER

**Candy dish** -- sterling silver in shape of peanut. (Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, Atlanta, GA); **Naval jacket** -- (Also from above).

### 40. RONALD REAGAN

**Brochure** -- from career as sportscaster, WHO radio station, Des Moines, IA. (Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, will be built at Thousand Oaks, , CA. Materials currently in Washington, DC); **Doodles** -- (Also from above); **Campaign poster** -- (Also from above); **Western boots** -- (Also from above); **State of the Union Address** -- 1986. (National Archives & Records Administration, Washington, DC).

### JEFFERSON DAVIS (Confederate President during Civil War)

**Pen** -- silver, with J.D. when arrested by Federal troops. (The White House of the Confederacy, Richmond, VA); **Wallet with religious badges** -- inscribed by wife Varina, states these had been worn by J.D. while in prison; **Letter and photo** -- 1857, authorizing discharge of a minor from Army. J.D. was Secretary of War. (Richard Norton Smith, West Branch, IA).

### COLLECTIONS:

**Campaign buttons** -- from 1884 - 1984. (Paul and Charlotte Speight, Madison, WI); **Locks of hair** -- from first 14 Presidents, Washington to Pierce. (National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC); **Signatures** -- letters, documents, autographed photos, of all 39 U.S. Presidents and 1 Confederate President. (Richard Norton Smith, West Branch, IA); **White House China** -- approximately 50 pieces, including plates, cups, saucers, platters, crystal, silver, service pieces, menus, invitations, photographs. (Set Charles Momjian, Huntingdon Valley, PA). Any pieces in displays of individual presidents - not entered in previous listing - are from his collection.

### SPECIAL THANKS

Much of the funding required to stage the Hoover Library-Museum's "39 Men" exhibit has been provided by corporate sponsors with gifts ranging from \$100 to \$1,000 each. Listed here alphabetically, exhibit sponsors as of April 19, 1988, included: The Archer Daniels Midland Co. of Decatur, Illinois; The Bandag Corp. of Muscatine, Iowa; Deere & Company of Moline, Illinois; The Gazette-KCRG Foundation of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Iowa Resources Inc. of Des Moines, Iowa; Maytag Co. of Newton, Iowa; Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. of Des Moines, Iowa; The Pella Rolscreen Foundation of Pella, Iowa; The John Ruan Foundation of Des Moines, Iowa; and the Teleconnect Company of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Special thanks to The National Endowment for the Humanities, The Iowa Humanities Board and Tidewater Publishing Co. of West Branch, Iowa, for publishing this listing of exhibit items.



Lincoln Questionnaire

-----

Name of town Burlington County Des Moines State Iowa

Date or dates when Lincoln spoke there Evening of October 9, 1858

Has a marker or monument ever been erected to commemorate his address? No

If so, when was it dedicated? \_\_\_\_\_

Is any literature referring to it, or a photograph of it available?

On the eleventh of October the Burlington Hawkeye lauded his speech highly, but without attempting to make a synopsis of it.

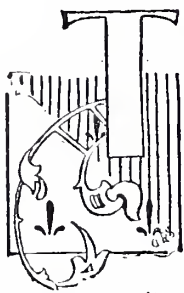
Any further information such as donor, inscription on tablet, or other data of interest would be appreciated.

see other side

Quoting Cyrenus Cole in his "A History of the People of Iowa":

(referring to Lincoln's speech of the ninth of October, 1858, in Burlington)  
"No ado was made over his presence in the city, and Mr. Lincoln came modestly to fulfill his engagement. It is related that he entered the old Barrett House with a small package in his hand. It was wrapped in a newspaper. He handed it to the clerk at the desk and asked him to take good care of it. He also confided to him the fact that it contained his 'boiled shirt'. It was all the baggage he carried. The man puzzled the people of Iowa, who ere his neighbors, as he puzzled others."

# LINCOLN VISITED COUNCIL BLUFFS



THE visit which the martyr president, Abraham Lincoln, paid to Council Bluffs, is an event which for all time will be one of absorbing interest to both cities. Mr. Lincoln went to Council Bluffs by accident, as it were. He had been out speaking in Kansas, and had returned to St. Joseph in company with Secretary Hatch, intending to go from there back east. But while waiting for a boat, the captain of the steamer on which they intended to engage passage, invited the party to make the trip up to Omaha and Council Bluffs first, stating that it would cost them nothing, and it would be a nice thing for them to see the upper river country before returning home. They consented and came to Council Bluffs.

This was in 1859. Mr. W. H. M. Pusey, the pioneer banker, was an old friend of Mr. Lincoln, and the latter made the bank of Officer & Pusey his headquarters while in the Bluffs. N. S. Bates, agent for the Western Stage company, was another gentleman who had been acquainted with Lincoln in Springfield, Ill., and one afternoon the three drove over the "little Mormon village" in a carriage sightseeing. Among other points they went up a little north of the present residence of Lucien Wells,

to a spot where almost a perpendicular precipice gave a swift descent to the plain below. Alighting from the carriage at that point, Mr. Pusey pointed out to the future president, the beautiful scenery from Florence on the north down to Bellevue on the south, and across the river to the then infant city of Omaha. While looking at the latter place, Mr. Pusey said to Mr. Lincoln:

## Nature's Railway Terminal

"Do you see that little depression south of the Herndon house, in the plain?"

"Yes, sir," replied Mr. Lincoln.

"There will probably be the crossing of the Union Pacific railroad. There or near there they will have to construct their bridges. Now, on this beautiful plateau beneath us, the entire system of Iowa railroads converge, seeking a western outlet to the Pacific. You are aware, Mr. Lincoln, that the act of congress incorporating and creating the Pacific railroad company has passed and there is one clause near the close of the articles of incorporation which gives to the president of the United States to fix the terminal point of the Pacific road. You are aware that the act provides that the terminal point of the Union Pacific shall be in Iowa on a certain section east of the town of Omaha. Who knows but you may be elected next year and have to fix the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad?"

Mr. Lincoln stood with his arms folded for some moments without speaking. Then his reply came:

"Well, nature seems to have laid that bottom down there and that Platte valley just to build railroads on, didn't it?"

Then turning to his companions he branched off on another subject:

"By the way, coming up to your city on the boat, Mr. Pusey, I saw you have a little river down here called Weeping Water. Do you know, if I was a member of the Nebraska legislature, the first thing I would do in my official capacity would be to introduce a bill to change the name of Weeping Water?"

"Why so?" Mr. Pusey asked. "That is the Indian name and certainly a very romantic one."

"O, yes, I know that; but it is inappropriate."

"How so?" asked Mr. Pusey.

"Why, up north in Minnesota, they have Minnehaha, the laughing waters. Now if I were over there in the legislature I would have Weeping Water changed to Minneboohoo."

## Never Visited Omaha.

Lincoln did not cross over to Omaha and this city missed the honor of his presence. It was his intention to do so, but the only means of transfer was the ferry boat and as he watched it working its way across and saw the dust and sand flying before a western wind he decided not to make the trip.

The boat he came up the river on stuck on a sand bar at the island south of the twin cities for several days and this prolonged his stay in the Bluffs. One day while in Officer & Pusey's bank he drew out of his pocket a greasy little newspaper in which was rolled a land warrant and handing it to Mr. Officer said:

"Here is my land warrant that I earned as captain of a company in the Black Hawk war. I wish you would take and enter it on some of your Iowa lands."

"Why didn't you use this years ago on your fine Illinois prairie land?" Mr. Officer asked.

"Well," said Lincoln, "perhaps it would have been wise, but this little

this road, and the little side remark you made to me, that possibly I might be called upon to fix the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad, gazing, as it were, right on the very spot, as I did, from that bluff."

"Mr. President," replied Mr. Pusey, "I notice just where that point commences. There the bridge will be erected and the depot grounds will be situated," all of which has been done since then.

When Lincoln was in Council Bluffs in 1859 he looked up a piece of property which he and a Chicago man had purchased a few years previous. It happened to be directly east of the site of the present depot. Thinking of the bit of land, Mr. Pusey remarked:

piece of parchment was of more value to me as a memento or heirloom in my family and it was laid away and neglected. I should have entered it in Illinois, I suppose. I came across it among my papers the other day and brought it along, thinking you might use it for me out here."

"I think that is a great oversight," remarked Mr. Pusey, "for all the best land has been taken up. But there is some left and we will do what we can do for you." Mr. Lincoln added:

"I have two sons I hope will grow up and I kept the old warrant to show that their father had been a soldier and the government had given him this parchment as an evidence of appreciation of his services."

## Owned Land in Crawford County

Officer & Pusey located 160 acres of land in Crawford county for Mr. Lincoln and later sold it for his son, Robert Lincoln.

In the spring of 1863, Mr. Pusey went to Washington and wished to see the president. He was ushered into the chief executive's room and was greeted by Lincoln:

"Sit right down here. I want to talk to you about Council Bluffs and the people I met at your house in the informal reception you gave me while Hatch and I were out there. How's the great big man of yours who was chief justice of Iowa? (Alluding to Judge Baldwin.) How are my friends Mr. and Mrs. Bloomer? Does Mrs. Bloomer still wear the Bloomer costume?"

After some talk the president arose and went to a map hanging on the wall, a map of the United States and the country contiguous to it. Placing his finger as near as he could on the bluff where he and Pusey and Bates had stood that summer afternoon in 1859, he said:

"Mr. Pusey, I never will forget the impression made on me in looking over that great country to be developed by

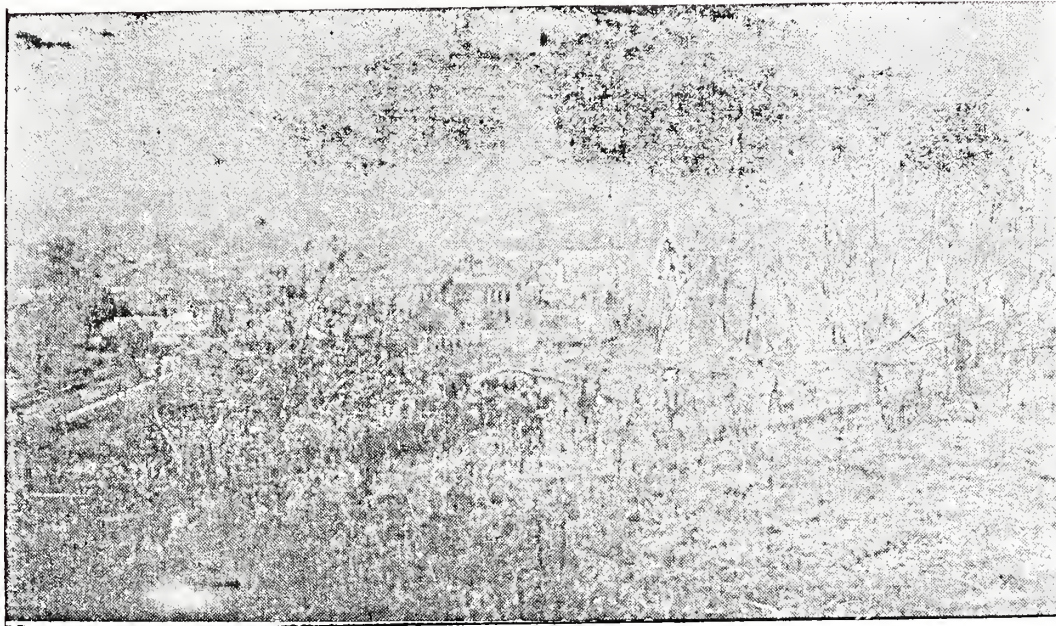
"That property of yours in Council Bluffs is going to be very valuable on account of the location of the railroad."

"O, no, no," Mr. Lincoln responded. "But it certainly will."

"Do you know," was Lincoln's reply, "when I was nominated for the presidency I wrote to Mr. Judd (his Chicago partner) to take that land off my hands. I knew the people were going to elect me president, and I never wanted it said that I was going to fix the terminal point of that road on land that I owned."



1911  
11-240  
1-361  
11-3-1  
0-214  
1-8



EXACT SPOT WHERE PRESIDENT LINCOLN STOOD.  
(Near Fairmount cemetery, on Oakland avenue, Council Bluffs, Ia.) (Photo by F. B. Millar, Staff Artist.)





Jefferson,  
Iowa

*Home  
of the  
Mahanay  
Tower*





## The Donors . . .

The Tower was built in accordance with the Wills of the late Wm. Floyd Mahanay and his wife Dora L. Mahanay, both of Jefferson. Mr. Mahanay died in 1947 and Mrs. Mahanay in 1962. Construction was put into the hands of Trustees named in his Will. The site, the southwest corner of the courthouse square was specified in his Will.

Mr. Mahanay's mother's family — the Blakes — were early pioneers of Greene County. His father was one of Jefferson's first blacksmiths. Mr. Mahanay for many years was a sales representative in Iowa and Nebraska for a surgical instrument company. During his business life he accumulated a substantial amount of Greene County farm land. Mrs. Mahanay was a resident of Nebraska prior to her marriage. They had no children.

Practically all of Mr. Mahanay's estate was designated for the Tower. Most of Mrs. Mahanay's \$300,000 estate is in an educational trust for helping young people go to college but a part was used to complete the Tower.

## Cost . . .

Tower, patio, carillon and bells had a total cost of about \$350,000. An elevator was also installed in the courthouse as a part of the construction at a \$35,000 cost. No tax money was used.

## Ownership and Operation . . .

The Tower is the property of the County of Greene. It is maintained by the County; the City of Jefferson provides certain facilities and services. Operation has been placed by the County Supervisors with a committee including members of the Supervisors, City Council and Tower Trustees.

# CARILLON TOWER

## Carillon and Bells . . .

The New World Carillon was made and installed by the J. C. Deagan Co. of Chicago. Its 32 bells range from C to G chromatic. It cost about \$20,000.

The 14 cast bells at the top of the Tower were cast at Petit & Fritzen, bell founders since 1660 at Aarle-Rixtel, Holland, and were purchased from I. T. Verdin Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, for about \$50,000. The largest is Middle C, weighs 4730 pounds and is five feet in diameter. The smallest is G, weighs only 198 pounds. Total weight is 19,634 pounds.

Both the Carillon and Cast Bell Chime can be played automatically from the same playing device and both may also be played manually from the same console keyboard. A Westminster device sounds the quarter-hour peal and strikes the hour automatically on either the Carillon or Chime. Concerts are played several times daily as Mr. Mahanay wished.

## Illumination . . .

The sides of the Tower are illuminated by six flood lights of 1000 watts each. The Bell Chime at the top is lighted by three floods of 400 watts each. It can be seen for many miles at night and is a beautiful sight on the rolling Iowa prairie.

## Interesting Facts . . .

The Tower is 162 feet and two inches high.

The observation platform, available by public elevator, is 128 feet high.

Materials used in construction included: 62½ tons of Wyoming dolomite (crushed stone), 60 tons of reinforcing steel, 15 tons of structural steel, 1000 yards of concrete, 26,000 square feet of glass and 60 tones of blasting sand.



# Greene County's Historic Courthouse

Entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979



The Greene County Courthouse, built in 1917, is a well-preserved example of Beaux-Arts government architecture, which found expression in a number of Iowa courthouses during the first decades of the 20th century.

Prominent features include the three-stage elevations, three-part facades, and engaged porticos, all executed in Bedford limestone, a popular material for that style. As in many courthouses of that period, a principal feature is the domed rotunda, which extends through the building from basement to attic, with superimposed column screens on the two main levels

separating the rotunda from the surrounding corridors.

The building measures 123'7" x 86'. East and west elevations are identical, as are those of the north and south. The masonry is rusticated to the level of the cornice. The windows of the first and second floors, uniformly finished with square heads, are joined by sunken spandrel panels. The windows of the basement level are finished with slightly arched heads with boldly articulated voussairs.

The 11-bay, three-part main elevations are dominated by engaged Ionic porticos with

## *The historic* **Greene County Courthouse in Jefferson**

*(continued)*

triangular pediments. Clocks are set in the tympana of the pediments, which are decorated with figures and swags executed in bas-relief. East and west elevations are each seven bays, the center five bays organized into a slightly advanced frontispiece.

The interior of the courthouse is arranged around a central rotunda with stained-glass ceiling. Access to the surrounding rooms and corridors is through wide, two-story round-arched openings, screened by pairs of Tennessee marble columns (Doric first floor, Ionic second floor). The tympana of these arches feature wall murals showing "the progress of civilization as recorded in Iowa". The murals, executed originally by artist William Peaco of the Andress Decorating Company, were originally entitled "The Buffalo Hunt", "The Pioneers", "The Emigrants" and "The Modern Farm". In the 1950s artist John Pritchard replaced "The Buffalo Hunt" with a farm scene featuring a combine, with a city in the background, and reworked "The Modern Farm".

The rotunda floor is a mosaic in ceramic tile, depicting the county seal with the theme of the Horn of Plenty. The main staircase is marble, with ornamental balustrades of bronze-plated iron.

Architects for the courthouse were Proudfoot, Bird and Rawson of Des Moines, whose extensive use of the Beaux Arts may be found in other Iowa courthouses and, most monumentally, in the four buildings which form the outer corners of the quincunx known as The Pentacrest at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

To the south of the courthouse on the lawn is a bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln on a granite base, which was erected in 1918 as a gift from E. B. Wilson of Jefferson. It was made by Bureau Brothers of Philadelphia, as a monument to the Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30), which formerly ran through the business district. Lincolnway now forms the south edge of the square.





*Greene Co. Medical Center*



*Spring Lake State Park*



*Many modern residential areas*



*One of several beautiful churches*

## *Some Interesting Facts About . . . Jefferson*

### **LOCATION:**

Jefferson is located on U. S. Highway 30 in west central Iowa, the county seat of Greene County.

### **HISTORY:**

The city was incorporated in 1872, 26 years after Iowa was admitted to the Union. Jefferson is a first class city with a current population of 5,000.



*The award-winning mural that decorates the side of the JC Penney building on the downtown square was painted by local residents under the direction of muralist Carl Homstad. It depicts a panorama of the community as seen from about three miles east of town.*

### **GOVERNMENT:**

Jefferson is governed by an elected city council and mayor. As the county seat, all county government offices are located in the county courthouse within the city. The courthouse, built in 1917 is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Law enforcement is provided by uniformed policemen and fire protection is handled by the Volunteer Fire Department.

### **EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES:**

Quality education is provided at Jefferson Community High School, Jr. High School and three elementary schools.

### **UTILITIES:**

Electric power and natural gas are provided by the Iowa Electric Light & Power Co. and water is supplied by a municipally owned water plant from several deep wells in and around the area. The Jefferson Telephone Co. provides a modern dial system.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE:

Chamber of Commerce  
114 East State  
Jefferson, Iowa 50129

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



*Jefferson Community High School*

## TRANSPORTATION:

Two railroads serve Jefferson, the main line of the Chicago and North Western and the Spirit Lake branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific. Greyhound bus line also serves Jefferson with connections to major towns and cities. The Jefferson Municipal Airport is open to private planes with a 75' by 3200' hard surfaced runway, lighted at night.

## CLIMATE:

With ideal climate and rainfall, Greene County offers excellent agricultural attractions. Jefferson is situated 1078 feet above sea level with a mean temperature of 48.1; summer 72.5; winter 25.7. Annual rainfall average 33.49 inches.

## COMMUNICATION:

Jefferson is served by two weekly newspapers, both edited and published in the city. Daily news is provided through the Des Moines Register and Tribune. Jefferson is also affiliated with radio station KDLS in Perry with several local news programs originating from the Jefferson studios daily.

## FINANCES:

The Jefferson area is served by two banks located within the city — The Jefferson State Bank and The Home State Bank. Both banks offer complete banking services. An office of United Federal Savings & Loan of Des Moines is also located in Jefferson.

## MEDICAL FACILITIES:

The Greene County Medical Center is an outstanding facility of 180 beds serving all of the Greene County area. A medical clinic, 11 physicians, four dentists and a number of registered nurses provide the nucleus of medical services to area residents.

## INDUSTRY:

A favorable climate, excellent transportation facilities and a ready labor market combine to make Jefferson an attractive home for industry. The principal industrial establishments now located in Jefferson include: The American Athletic Equipment Division of AMF, Jefferson Transmission Plant, The Jefferson Company, Parker Industries, Inc., Ideal Livestock Equipment, McAtee Tire, Fabricators International, and Northrup King.



*Municipal swimming pool and park*



*Carnegie Public Library*



*Part of courthouse square and business district*

## Lincoln Monument

Erected by the Council Bluffs chapter, Daughters of American Revolution, on the exact spot where Abraham Lincoln had viewed the Missouri valley during his first and only visit to western Iowa, August 12, 1859. Dedication ceremonies were held October 10, 1911. Cost \$1350, which does not include cost of tablet that State of Iowa put on. On the monument is the following inscription:

"A King of Men  
Whose crown was love  
Whose throne was gentleness."  
This monument  
Is to commemorate the visit of  
Abraham Lincoln  
To Council Bluffs August 12, 1859.  
From this point he viewed  
The extensive panorama of  
The valley of the Missouri river  
And in compliance with  
The law of Congress  
On November 17, 1863,  
He selected this city  
As the eastern terminus of  
The Union Pacific railroad.



The tablet on which two "Fighting Daughters" are placing a wreath was erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution at Council Bluffs, Ia. At the top is this sentiment, "Whose crown was love, whose throne was gentleness." The tablet recites: "This monument is to commemorate the visit of Abraham Lincoln to Council Bluffs August 19, 1858. From this point he viewed the extensive panorama of the valley of the Missouri river and in compliance with the law of congress on November 17, 1863, he selected this city as the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific railroad."

This tablet has a significance beyond that of the occasion it commemorates: "This is the spot farthest west in the United States that the foot of Lincoln trod." So, when the Woman's Relief corps of the G. A. R. in Denver wished to pay its homage last fall it fastened a bronze tablet containing the Gettysburg address to one of the columns of the Colorado statehouse, by special permission of the legislature. Lincoln's foot had never pressed the soil of the Centennial state, admitted to the Union more than a decade after his death.

## ABRAHAM LINCOLN IN IOWA.

### He Made Two Trips to the State and Stopped Several Days in the Bluffs.

In the noted Lincoln-Douglas debate of 1858 Abraham Lincoln delivered a political speech in Burlington. He was invited to visit Keokuk later, but declined because he could not afford to lose the time and expense of the trip, says the Des Moines Capital.

In 1859 Abraham Lincoln, in company with Secretary of State Hatch of Illinois, made a visit of several days in Council Bluffs. Hon. W. H. M. Pusey accounts for the long stay by saying that visitors who came to Council Bluffs in 1859 had to wait for a steamboat to get away, often many days. Halting in a carriage drive to point out the probable location of the bridge across the Missouri for the Union Pacific railroad, Mr. Pusey said: "You are aware, Mr. Lincoln, that the act of congress incorporating and creating the Pacific Railroad company has passed, and there is one clause near the close of the articles of incorporation which gives to the president of the United States power to fix the turning point of the Union Pacific railroad. You are aware that the act provides that the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad shall be in Iowa, on a certain section east of and past the town of Omaha. Who knows but you may be elected next year and have to fix the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad?" Standing there for some minutes with his arms folded, Lincoln's reply was: "Well, nature seems to have laid the bottom there and that Platte valley just to build railroads on, didn't it?"

In 1863 Mr. Pusey visited President Lincoln at the White House and the president arose and went to a map that was hanging on the wall, and, tracing the Union Pacific, placing his finger as near as he could on that bluff where he stood in 1859, said: "Mr. Pusey, I will never forget the impression made on me in looking over that great country that is to be developed by this road, and the little side remark you made to me, that possibly I might be called upon to fix the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad, gazing as it were right on the very spot as I did from that bluff."

During a visit to Council Bluffs in 1859 Mr. Lincoln pulled from his vest pocket a little soiled piece of newspaper, in which was rolled a land warrant. He asked Mr. Pusey to enter this 160 acres of land for him, saying: "I kept it as an heirloom of the Black Hawk war. For years and years it was all I had, and after my boys began to grow up I thought I would keep it and show them that their father had once been a soldier." Morris McHenry, county surveyor of Crawford county, gives the rest of the story: "The 120-acre land warrant of President Lincoln for his services in the Black Hawk war was located December 27, 1859. I think a banker named Jacob Bunn of Springfield, Ill., was his agent, and that the warrant was sent to Officer & Pusey, bankers at Council Bluffs, who made the entry at the Council Bluffs land office. The location was made on the north half of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section eighteen (18), in township eighty-four (84), north of range thirty-nine (39), west of the Fifth principal meridian, in Crawford county. The township is named Goodrich township. This land was held by the Lincoln estate until April 26, 1892. I was their local agent for many years, but Messrs. Officer & Pusey acted as their state agents. As above, April 26, 1892, Robert T. Lincoln and wife deeded this land to Henry Edwards (unmarried), who deeded the same to E. T. Cochran of Denison. Robert Lincoln received for the land \$1,300. E. T. Cochran and wife, on the 24th of October, 1892, deeded the same to Peter F. Jepsen, the present owner, for the consideration of \$1,925. I have surveyed on the lines of the Lincoln land some four or five times within the past twenty-five years. It is a nice, rolling prairie, with two small streams of water on it. It is in a large German settlement, and is worth about \$45 per acre, being part of Mr. Jepsen's 1,000-acre farm."



# SOME NEW FACTS ABOUT LINCOLN

HIS VISIT TO COUNCIL BLUFFS,  
THE MOST WESTERLY POINT  
HE EVER VISITED.

War President's Experience as Rail-  
road Lawyer—He Invented Device  
to Help Steamboats Over Snags  
and His Last Pardon.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln which is to be observed on Feb. 12, has brought to light some facts regarding his career which were little known before notwithstanding the many volumes that have been written about him. Two of these comparatively obscure features of his career are brought out by Appleton's magazine in an article in which it is shown that Lincoln was once a corporation lawyer and that he never saw more than a third of the territory of the United States, never having penetrated west of the Missouri river.

According to General Grenville M. Dodge, one of the few men still living who was closely associated with Lincoln before the war between the states as well as during that struggle, Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs, the westernmost point in the country that he ever visited, was made in 1859, just fifty years ago. At that time General Dodge was an engineer in the service of the Chicago and Rock Island railroad engaged in work on its line west from Chicago to Council Bluffs. Mr. Lincoln had been one of the legal representatives of the road in some of its litigation and through this connection was induced to purchase some lots at the western terminus of the line. The fact that Lincoln was at one stage of his career a railroad lawyer is not generally known. If he had had to do with the politics of the present day no doubt greater publicity would have been given to the fact and it might have been used against him it was not considered anything against a man to serve a corporation.

Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs was made to inspect the property that he had bought and in this connection an interesting coincidence is brought out by the Appleton writer.

"About this same time," he says, "Clement L. Vallandigham bought property adjoining the lots owned by Mr. Lincoln. The fact that they had neighborly interests in Council Bluffs does not seem to have brought them any closer in their political views, for, as is known to all, Mr. Vallandigham in his public speeches during the civil war denounced Mr. Lincoln and the government was arrested, tried by court martial, and sentenced to close confinement. The president obeying the generous instincts of his big heart, commuted the sentence to banishment into the confederate lines. Mr. Vallandigham, however, was disappointed with his reception by the confederates and sought refuge in Canada, so that the affair of the two men apparently never met again.

Mr. Lincoln came from Chicago to St. Joseph, Mo., by rail and then proceeded up the Missouri river by steamboat to Council Bluffs. These steamboats were stern wheelers, and so rigged that they could lift themselves by spars over the shallow places and sand bars in the river. We may feel certain that the voyage was of great interest to the traveler, for he himself devised an apparatus for that purpose. Having planned a mechanism of bellows, ropes and pulleys, he made a model of it, sent it to Washington and a patent was issued, although it is not recorded that the invention was ever utilized.

"During Lincoln's visit, some of the citizens of Council Bluffs took him to a high bluff known as Cemetery Hill just north of the town. From this point could be had a view of the country ten miles north and ten miles south, up and down the great Missouri river valley and across the Missouri river five miles west. He was greatly impressed with the outlook, and the bluff from that time has been known as Lincoln's Hill. It is now in contemplation to place upon the spot where he stood as a memento of his visit to Council Bluffs, a suitable monument or tablet bearing a proper inscription and recognizing the historical fact that from here he looked down upon the place where by his order, four years later, the terminus of the finest transcontinental railway was established.

"It is a singular fact that while the United States had spent a great deal of money in exploration for a feasible line for the Pacific railroad, the government never had examined the natural route along the forty-second parallel of latitude. All the surveys had been made and all the data obtained by private citizens connected with the Rock Island railroad, at the head of which was Henry Farnam of Connecticut. President Lincoln, after going over all the facts that could be presented to him, and from his own knowledge, finally fixed the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific railroad where our surveys determined the proper locality—at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

"After this discussion of the location, he took up with me the question of building the road. The law of 1862 failed to bring any capital or men to undertake the work, and I said to him, that in my opinion private enterprise could not build the road. Mr. Lincoln said that the government had its hands full, and could not assume the task, but was ready to support any company to the fullest legal extent and amend the law so as to enable such a company to issue securities that would furnish the necessary funds." While President Lincoln is remembered for his personal interest in the cases of condemned military offenders there are not a few such which have never been known to the public. One of these General Dodge relates. "While in command of the department of Missouri," says he, "I daily saw what a kind heart Mr. Lincoln had, how his sympathy went out to everyone in trouble and how his great desire was to save life. The conflict in Missouri was a bitter, personal, revengeful one. I remember the day before President Lincoln's assassination my lady came to see me whose son was about to be executed for murder committed as a guerrilla. She had been to Washington to save him, and had seen the president. She brought me Mr. Lincoln's card, on the back of which he had written: 'My Dear General Dodge: Will you not do something for this lady, who is in much trouble?' I understood the case; that, while I would not interfere, he hoped that I could see my way to do so, and he

disposed of the lady in that way. The lady, in presenting the case, supposed that card alone would pardon her son, but when I told her I would consider it, she was indignant, and left, no doubt determined to report me to the president and appeal over my head. That evening President Lincoln was assassinated. All officers holding important commands were notified in the night, so that they could prepare for the excitement that was bound to come. I was especially cautioned to prepare for trouble in Missouri. It was thought the crime would anger the union men in the state and cause an uprising and acts of revenge upon the

rebel sympathizers. I brought into the city of St. Louis such troops as were near, and issued an order suspending all business, warning both sides to remain in their houses, and prohibiting any gathering of crowds on the streets. But I found that the southern people were more distressed at the great crime, if possible, than the union sympathizers. The streets of St. Louis were deserted for two days, and there was nothing but sorrow exhibited on both sides.

"The lady called the next day and asked me for the card; she said she desired to keep it as a memento; no doubt giving up all hopes for her son, but I did not have it in my heart, after Lincoln's death to carry out the order of the court, and therefore commuted the sentence to imprisonment."

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE BRAN-

**Old Abe Owned It.**

X Messrs. Officer and Pusey, bankers of this city, entered a tract of land of 120 acres in Crawford county, Iowa, with a land warrant which was earned by Abraham Lincoln as a captain in the Blackhawk war. Messrs. Officer & Pusey have recently sold this same tract, and Mr. Robert T. Lincoln and his wife have executed a deed for the same, in which is the following interesting recital of titles: The said Robert T. Lincoln hereby declares that his title to said land is wholly by descent, as follows: that Abraham Lincoln the patentee of said land died on the 15th of April, 1865, intestate, leaving his surviving widow, Mary Lincoln, and his two sons, Robert T. and Thomas (Tad), and no other heirs; that said Thomas died on the 15th of July, 1871, in the 19th year of his age, intestate and unmarried, leaving him surviving his mother and his brother, Robert T. Lincoln; that Mary Lincoln died on the 16th of July, 1882, intestate and a widow, leaving remaining as her sole heir Robert T. Lincoln; and that the estates of said Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Lincoln and Mary Lincoln were duly administered according to law in the county court of Sangamon county in the state of Illinois, and that all claims against them were paid and discharged. This document bears the signatures of Robert and his wife in London, and the acknowledgement before the Secretary of the Legation of the United States in London.

The document is one which possesses a peculiar and singular interest, and the purchaser of the land is in possession of a free-hold, to which must ever attach an interest wholly apart from its value.—Nonpareil,



## LINCOLN IN IOWA.

### Two Visits Paid by Him to the Hawkeye State Before He Became President.

The state department of public instruction issued a collection of patriotic selections for use of the school children of Iowa in celebrations of February 12 and 22, the birthday anniversaries of Lincoln and Washington respectively. Among these selections is the following, giving an account of two visits which Lincoln paid to the state of Iowa before he became president:

In the noted Lincoln-Douglas debate of 1858, Abraham Lincoln delivered a political speech in Burlington. He was invited to visit Keokuk later, but declined because he could not afford the loss of time and expense of the trip.

In 1859 Abraham Lincoln, in company with Secretary of State Hatch, of Illinois, made a visit of several days in Council Bluffs. Hon. W. H. M. Pusey accounts for the long stay by saying that visitors who came to Council Bluffs in 1859 had to wait for a steamboat to get away, often many days. Halting in a carriage drive to point out the probable location of the bridge across the Missouri for the Union Pacific railroad, Mr. Pusey said: "You are aware, Mr. Lincoln, that the act of congress incorporating and creating the Pacific railroad company has passed, and there is one clause near the close of the articles of incorporation which gives to the president of the United States power to fix the turning point of the Union Pacific railroad. You are aware that the act provides that the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad shall be in Iowa, on a certain section east of and past the town of Omaha. Who knows but you may be elected next year, and have to fix the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad?" Standing there for some minutes with his arms folded, Lincoln's reply was: "Well, nature seems to have laid that bottom down there and that Platte valley just to build railroads on, didn't it?"

In 1863 Mr. Pusey visited President Lincoln at the White house, and the president arose and went to a map that was hanging on the wall, and tracing the Union Pacific, placing his finger as near as he could on that bluff where he stood in 1859, said: "Mr. Pusey, I never will forget the impression made on me in looking over that great country, that is to be developed by this road, and the little side remark you made to me, that possibly I might be called upon to fix the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad, gazing as it were right on the very spot, as I did from that bluff."

During a visit to Council Bluffs in 1859 Mr. Lincoln pulled from his vest pocket a little soiled piece of newspaper, in which was rolled a land warrant. He asked Mr. Pusey to enter this 160 acres of land for him, saying: "I kept it as an heirloom of the Black Hawk war. For years and years it was all I had, and after my boys began to grow up I thought I would keep it and show them that their father had once been a soldier." Morris McHenry, county surveyor of Crawford county, gives the rest of the story: "The 120-acre land warrant of President Lincoln for his services in the Black Hawk war was located December 27, 1859. I think a banker named Jacob Bunn, of Springfield,

Ill., was his agent, and that the warrant was sent to Officer & Pusey, bankers at Council Bluffs, who made the entry at the Council Bluffs land office. The location was made on the north half of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section eighteen (18), in township eighty-four (84), north of range thirty-nine (39), west of the 5th principal meridian, in Crawford county. The township is named Goodrich township. This land was held by the Lincoln estate until April 26, 1892. I was their local agent for many years, but Messrs. Officer & Pusey acted as their estate agents. As above, April 26, 1892, Robert T. Lincoln and wife deeded this land to Henry Edwards (unmarried), who deeded the same to E. T. Cochran, of Denison. Robert Lincoln received for the land \$1,300. E. T. Cochran and wife, on the 24th of October, 1892, deeded the same to Peter F. Jepsen, the present owner, for the consideration of \$1,925. I have surveyed on the lines of the Lincoln land some four or five times within the last twenty-five years. It is nice rolling prairie, with two small streams of water on it. It is in a large German settlement, and is worth about \$45 per acre, being part of Mr. Jepsen's 1,000-acre farm."

*No little no debt*

## LINCOLN IN IOWA.

In the noted Lincoln-Douglas debate of 1858, Abraham Lincoln delivered a political speech in Burlington. He was invited to visit Keokuk later, but declined because he could not afford to lose the time and expense of the trip.

In 1859 Abraham Lincoln, in company with Secretary of State Hatch, of Illinois, made a visit of several days in Council Bluffs. Hon W. L. M. Pusey, accounts for the long stay by saying that visitors who came to Council Bluffs in 1859 had to wait for a steamboat to get away, often many days. Halting in a carriage drive to point out the probable location of the bridge across the Missouri for the Union Pacific railroad, Mr. Pusey said: "You are aware, Mr. Lincoln, that the act of congress incorporating and creating the Pacific railroad company has passed, and there is one clause near the close of the articles of incorporation which gives to the president of the United States power to fix the turning point of the Union Pacific railroad. You are aware that the act provides that the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad shall be in Iowa, on a certain section east of and past the town of Omaha. Who knows but you may be elected next year, and have to fix the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad?" Standing there for some minutes with his arms folded, Lincoln's reply was: "Well, nature seems to have laid the bottom there and that Platte valley just to build railroads on, didn't it?"

In 1863 Mr. Pusey visited President Lincoln at the white house, and the president rose and went to a map that was hanging on the wall, and tracing the Union Pacific, placing his finger as near as he could on that bluff where he stood in 1859, said: "Mr. Pusey, I will never forget the impression made on me in looking over that great country that is to be developed by this road, and the little side remark you made to me, that possibly I might be called upon to fix the terminal point of the Union Pacific railroad, gazing as it were right on the very spot, as I did from that bluff."

During a visit to Council Bluffs in 1859 Mr. Lincoln pulled from his vest pocket a little soiled piece of newspaper, in which was rolled a land warrant. He asked Mr. Pusey to enter this 160 acres of land for him, saying: "I kept it as an heirloom of the Black Hawk war. For years and years it was all I had, and after my boys began to grow up I thought I would keep it and show them that their father had once been a soldier." Morris Melleny, county surveyor of Crawford county gives the rest of the story: "The 120 acre land warrant of President Lincoln for his services in the Black Hawk war was located December 27, 1859. I think a banker named Jacob Bunn, of Springfield, Illinois, was his agent, and that the warrant was sent to Officer & Pusey, bankers at Council Bluffs, who made the entry at the Council Bluffs land office. The location was made on the north half of northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section eighteen (18), in township eighty-four (84) north of range thirty-nine (39), west of the Fifth principal meridian, in Crawford county. The township is named Goodrich township. This land was held by the Lincoln estate until April 26, 1892. I was their local agent for many years, but Messrs. Officer & Pusey acted as their state agents. As above, April 26, 1892, Robert T. Lincoln and wife deeded this land to Henry Edwards (unmarried), who deeded the same to E. T. Cochran, of Denison. Robert Lincoln received for the land \$1,300. E. T. Cochran and wife, on the 24th of October, 1892, deeded the same to Peter F. Jepsen, the present owner, for the consideration of \$1,925. I have surveyed on the lines of the Lincoln land some four or five times within the past twenty-five years. It is a nice, rolling prairie, with two small streams of water on it. It is in a large German settlement, and is worth about \$15 per acre, being part of Mr. Jepsen's 1,000-acre farm."



# Land; Picked Rail Terminal

By JOHN ELLIOTT  
Times Staff Writer

Abraham Lincoln — Iowa landowner and selector of railroad terminals.

Such identification of the Great Emancipator may come as a surprise to those who have always thought of Lincoln's pre-Washington years as being confined to Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois.

It is true, however, that such ideas are substantially right. For material of Quad-City area Lincoln scholars points to his connection with the famous battle between the Rock Island railroad and steamboat interests, over the former's right to erect a bridge across the Mississippi.

But there are more intimate Iowa connections, if less well known. First evidence, and rather scanty, is of a speech made in the Hawkeye state by Lincoln.

**DR. WILLIAM J. Peterson**, superintendent of the Iowa State Historical Society, says on page 972 of the second volume of his "The Story of Iowa," that "during the Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 he (Lincoln) crossed over to Burlington to make a brief speech in that town."

Thus we have Lincoln speaking in Iowa in the year in which he lost the senatorial contest with Stephen Douglas and the same year in which James Grimes was leading the new Republican party to victory in Iowa with his election to the Senate.

In the following year Lincoln touched on Iowa's opposite shore at Council Bluffs. That he did so is confirmed in Dr. Petersen's volume, "The Annals of Iowa" (Third Series) Vol. IV, and in at least one other publication.

**ACCORDING TO** the "Annals," Lincoln in company with Illinois Secretary of State Heath had been campaigning in Kansas in the summer of 1859, and had got as far as St. Joseph, Mo. on his return home. Being "all fagged out," Lincoln was persuaded by his river boat captain to take a side-trip on the Missouri river to see the "up country" around Council Bluffs.

Consequently, the residents of that busy settlement noted one August morning the long, gangling figure of Lincoln at the "Old Pacific House." N. S. Bates, the mayor and a Mr. Pusey, both former neighbors of Lincoln's in Springfield, quickly took charge of the great man while he was in town.

They got an open carriage and drove their distinguished guest about and from a high bluff, showed him the projected route of the Union Pacific railroad. In

*List of Indian prisoners now in confinement at Camp McClellan near Davenport. Iowa pardoned and to be liberated and sent to their families*

*The persons named on this list are pardoned and ordered to be sent to their families or relatives.*  
*April 30, 1864* *A. Lincoln*

**A LINCOLN ORDER** — The lines reproduced here were taken from an order signed by Lincoln April 30, 1864, directing the freeing of 25 Indians who were part of a group of over 300 who had been

held at Camp McClellan, situated in the area of today's McClellan Heights. This valuable old document will be on display this weekend at Davenport Public Museum.

later years when Lincoln signed the order fixing the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific in Council Bluffs, Pusey, who was at the White House, quoted him as saying he "had no difficulty in fixing it on the section of land overlooked by us that August day from your bluffs."

**THAT EVENING** in Iowa, there being great popular demand to hear him speak, a hall, was secured and Lincoln spoke, presumably to as many as could crowd within range of his voice.

However, the boat on which he was to return downstream stuck on a sandbar near Omaha and Lincoln spent two more days in Council Bluffs. Apparently the time was spent in pleasantries, such as the public reception the next evening attended by several hundred guests, among them Gen. G. M. Dodge, builder of the Union Pacific.

**COMMENTING** upon Lincoln's association with the Rock Island bridge case, Dr. Petersen says: "At this same time he lent \$2,500 to Norman B. Judd, attorney for the Rock Island Railroad and his associate in the trial, later getting a quit-claim deed to 17 lots in Council Bluffs and ten acres along the Mississippi & Missouri Railroad." What became of that property is not revealed, but it was obviously disposed of later.

So far as is known there is no other evidence of Lincoln having set foot on Iowa soil.

**BUT HE DID** own two tracts of good Iowa land totaling 160 acres, neither of which he ever visited. The first was in Tama county, the second in Crawford county. Both he received as land grants for his

services as a captain in the Black Hawk Indian War.

The office of the recorder in Tama county according to Petersen's account, gives the date of sale as July 21, 1854 "upon a land warrant in lieu of cash" for 40 acres. Lincoln's "duly appointed officer, John R. Davis" at Dubuque had taken care of the details for him.

April 6, 1874, Lincoln's widow executed a quit claim deed to the land for consideration of \$100 to her son Robert Todd Lincoln. The son subsequently disposed of the land in 1875, though it is not indicated to whom.

**THE SECOND** Iowa tract of 120 acres was originally recorded as to the land patent in Crawford county Sept. 10, 1860; but for some reason is not listed as filed for record until Dec. 12, 1867. Title passed from the Lincoln family through a warranty deed filed by Robert T. Lincoln and his wife Mary Harlan Lincoln on Mar. 22, 1892 for a consideration of \$1,300.

There is now a commemorative boulder standing at a corner of that tract which was placed by the Denison chapter of the DAR, with a metal plaque inscription reading, "Land Grant made to Abraham Lincoln for services rendered in the Black Hawk War, 1832. Marked by Denison Chapter, DAR, 1923."

**ALSO IN** connection with Lincoln's Iowa lands is his relationship through the marriage of his son with a prominent early Iowa family—the Harlans. Mary Harlan, daughter of Sen. James Harlan married Robert Todd Lincoln. Her father's name was before the U. S. Senate as nominee for Secretary

of the Interior when Lincoln was shot. Consequently, when her husband, Lincoln's son, died July 26, 1926, she was the last survivor of the Lincoln family.

That appears to conclude Lincoln's direct Iowa connections. There is a tenuous Davenport connection through this city's famed early citizen, Annie Wittenmyer. On page 972 of Dr. Petersen's second volume there is this entry: "It was Lincoln too, who warmly supported Annie Turner Wittenmyer when that gallant Iowa woman sought to establish diet kitchens in the Union Army hospitals during the Civil War. Later Lincoln entertained Mrs. Wittenmyer in the White House."

## NDS AN OLD RECORD

Records of an early day suit to quiet title in land once held by Abraham Lincoln, the title to which was defective because of the deed to Lincoln, were discovered in the early archives of Pottawattamie county yesterday afternoon by Manager J. D. Bryan of the Pottawattamie county yesterday afternoon by Manager J. D. Bryan of the Pottawattamie County Abstract company, while digging among the musty old records of the county.

Seventeen lots in Council Bluffs and a ten-acre tract that is located not far from the Iowa end of the Union Pacific bridge across the Missouri river here are involved in the action, which was filed in the clerk's office at the Council Bluffs court house almost exactly fifty years ago by E. F. Burdick, then clerk of the district court.

Deed to the property had been given Lincoln before he became president of the county in a deed executed by Nathan B. Judd on November 11, 1859, as security for a loan of \$3,000 that had been made to him September 1, 1859. The note for this debt, by the way, was payable in five years and bore 10 per cent interest. The deed was actually given as security for the loan, but by its terms it was an absolute conveyance of the property in question, and as the musty old petition in court stated in its musty old terms "said Abraham Lincoln died intestate on the fifteenth day of April, A. D. 1865," thus briefly recording in legal verbiage the assassination of the man who had piloted his country through the stormiest times it had ever known.

### Lincoln Doan Paid Off.

"Dying intestate," Lincoln left surviving him, so the petition recites at some length, his "widow, Mary Lincoln, and two sons, Robert T. Lincoln, who is about 24 years of age, and Thomas Lincoln, who is an infant of about the age of 14 years." In due time, in the summer of 1867, Mrs. Lincoln and Robert T. Lincoln, later secretary of war under President Garfield and later president of the Pullman Car company, had been paid, through Senator Daniel Davis, administrator of Lincoln's estate, the principal of \$3,000 and \$2,400 in interest on the old note, and had given Judd in return a quit claim deed to the property involved.

But Thomas Lincoln, better known to fame by his father's famous nickname of Tad, was legally an "infant," and could not give a conveyance to the property. Hence the necessity for the suit to quiet the title.

The formal original notice of the suit was "served" upon "Tad" Lincoln by his older brother, Robert T. Lincoln, whose signature is affixed to the legal return of the service. And thus, upon the issues as presented in the petition by Caleb Baldwin, famous attorney of the early days, who represented Judd in the action at law, and by D. C. Bloomer, another famous pioneer of those days, who was named by the court as guardian-ad-litem for the youthful Lincoln heir, the case was put to trial, and the court formally decreed that the deed from Judd to Abraham Lincoln had in fact and truth been a mortgage, and that having been paid, the defendant, young Lincoln, should deed back the property to Judd, in accordance with good conscience and equity.

Being a minor, he could not do this personally, and Morris P. Brewer, an-

other early day attorney, was named as special commissioner of the court to execute the deed for the defendant in accordance with the court's orders.

### Brought Lincoln to Bluffs.

The original deed, a copy of the written contract between Lincoln and Judd which made the deed in effect only a mortgage, the notice served on "Tad" Lincoln by his older brother are all set forth in the pleadings still on file at the court house in the half-century old case over the land that brought President Lincoln upon his one and only visit to Council Bluffs, when in reality the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific railroad, the first to span the continent, was determined upon, though Council Bluffs was of course not actually named in the legislation by congress upon about four years later, after Lincoln's election to the highest office in the gift of the nation had plunged the entire country into the throes of civil war.

The land involved in the suit is described in the action as lots 2 and 3, block 1; lots 8 and 9, block 7; lots 3 and 4, block 3; lot 3, block 12; lots 7 and 8, block 11; lots 15 and 16, block 14; lot 6, block 2; lot 5, block 19; and lots 11, 12, 3 and 4, block 16, all in Riddle's subdivision of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 36, township 75 north, range 44 west, and also a sixteenth interest in the southwest quarter of section 34 of the same township and range, embracing ten acres, "except such portion as may be needed for the right of way for the Mississippi and Missouri railroad."





This tall granite shaft commemorates Abraham Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs in 1859. It stands on Point Lookout, where Lincoln looked across the Missouri river as he discussed the route of a railroad to the Pacific.

## Visited Council Bluffs; Once Owned Two Farms in State

*This is another in a series of centennial year historical stories which are appearing in The Sunday Register.*

Abraham Lincoln, the Illinois attorney and politician stepped off a Missouri river steamboat to look over the town of Council Bluffs one day in August of 1859.

It wasn't an atomic bomb event to the town. Although the state of Iowa was only 13 years, Council Bluffs already was a thriving, river town of 1,500 people. It had big ideas about being the railway metropolis of the west.

The 50-year-old, smooth-shaven visitor hadn't achieved any great degree of success. He had served a couple of terms in the Illinois legislature and a term in congress, and had lost a senatorial contest.

### Tour of the City.

But Abe Lincoln did come near enough to qualifying as a distinguished visitor to be taken on a tour of the city. He also was called upon for a public speech and was given a reception in a private home.

Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs would fall into the column of "so what" remembrances, however, if

## Exciting Tales of Old Iowa

it weren't for one incident which passed unnoticed at the time.

That incident was the talk which Lincoln had with a young railroad engineer and surveyor.

The information which Lincoln obtained in his talk later was to determine the starting point of the first railroad to span the continent. Iowa was to be a gateway for the "westward-ho" development of the nation.

Lincoln made several other trips into Iowa before, but not after, he became president.

*If you like to speculate, you also can ponder over the knowledge that Lincoln once owned two Iowa farms. Perhaps, if fate and the voters hadn't made him president, he might have lived to a ripe old age as an Iowa farmer.*

★ ★ ★

### Lincoln's Speech At Council Bluffs

Lincoln's visit to Council Bluffs was for business purposes.

He had been in Kansas making some political speeches. On his return to Illinois, he stopped at St. Joseph, Mo., and boarded a steamboat for the "up country."

### Inspected Land.

His business at Council Bluffs was to inspect 17 subdivision lots and 10 acres of rolling prairie. Lincoln had accepted this land as security for a \$3,000 loan to Norman B. Judd, attorney for the Rock Island railroad and Lincoln's political campaign manager.

The Council Bluffs Weekly Nonpareil announced Lincoln's arrival in a brief item which said that "the distinguished 'sucker' has yielded to the earnest importunities of our citizens—without distinction of party—and will speak upon the political issues of the day."

### "Masterly" Speech.

The same paper, a week later, said that Lincoln had given a "masterly and unanswerable speech" in which he "applied the political scalpel to the Democratic carcass."

The rival paper, the Bugle, said Lincoln "with many excuses . . . as if conscious of the nauseous nature of the black Republican rostrum, announced his intention to speak about the 'Eternal Negro,' and entered into a lengthy and ingenious analysis of the 'nigger' question."

Neither paper made any at-

tempt to report what Lincoln told his audience.

The issue which Lincoln discussed undoubtedly was his contention that "this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free."

That had been his challenge the previous year in his debates with Stephen A. Douglas. And while it was Douglas, the Democrat, who won the Illinois senatorship, it was Lincoln who came out of the campaign headed for the White House.

Of course the newspaper editors in Council Bluffs in 1859 couldn't have been expected to foresee that a year later the Illinois "sucker" would be elected president of the United States.

### At Home of Democrat.

Party lines couldn't have been drawn too strongly at Council Bluffs, however. For the reception given Lincoln was held at the home of W.H.M. Pusey, a banker who was a Democrat.

Pusey formerly had lived at Lincoln's home town, Springfield, Ill., and was Lincoln's agent in some business transactions.

One guest, the Rev. George G. Rice, recalled later that "along about 11 o'clock they shooed out the women and the preachers so Abe could tell some of his favorite stories."

The incident during Lincoln's visit, however, which has some significance, was his meeting with Grenville M. Dodge, who had just returned from a surveying trip.

"We sat down on a bench on the porch of the Pacific house and he proceeded to find out all about the country we had been through and all about our railroad surveys," Dodge recalled in his memoirs.

"In fact, he extracted from me the information I had gathered for my employers."

### Not Too Reluctant.

Perhaps Dodge was not too reluctant to give the information. Lincoln was known as a strong advocate of a railroad to the Pacific and he, like Dodge, had at times been employed by the Rock Island railroad.

Carl Sandburg tells what happened after the conversation this way:

"Then Lincoln and Dodge walked to a tall hill and looked west into the haze of the Great Plains. As Lincoln stood gazing from that hilltop in 1859 there was between him and the west coast not a rail for the Iron Horse to run on except a 22-mile line in the Sacramento valley of California."

"Three Pacific railroads had been built, on paper, imaginarily, in bills passing the senate, the house refusing to concur. The reality was yet to come."

It wasn't until 1862, during the Civil war, that congress passed a bill providing for the long-sought railroad to the Pacific.



# Lincoln's Name Linked With Old Iowa

## First Span.

The bill gave broad authority to Lincoln, including selection of the point in Iowa from which the road was to be constructed.

Every town along the Missouri of any size, from Sioux City to Kansas City, was striving to get the new railroad.

It was at this time that Dodge, then a brigadier general, was summoned to Washington. He feared he was going in for a reprimand because of the arming of some Negroes in Missouri. He discovered Lincoln wanted to talk railroad matters.

## Recalled Talks.

"He recalled our conversation in Council Bluffs," Dodge said, "And on the report I made to him, he fixed the eastern terminus on the western boundary of Iowa in the townships that Council Bluffs is located in."

So it was that the Union Pacific railroad started from Council Bluffs. Lincoln's prediction, made from that tall hill overlooking the Missouri, also was to come true that "not one, but many roads, will someday center here."

★ ★ ★

## Railway Case

### Won by Lincoln

There's a railroad connection with another of Lincoln's Iowa visits.

This was in the spring of 1859 when Lincoln crossed the river from Galena, Ill., where he had been representing a railroad in a court case, to spend a day and a night at the Julien house at Dubuque.

## Private Car.

Lincoln rode in a private car on his own pass provided him as attorney for the railroad company.

"The distinction of a private car and the privilege of free transportation greatly impressed some of the young Republican leaders of Dubuque," an historian notes.

One of the cases in which Lincoln appeared as a railroad attorney has some interest to Iowans. That was the Rock Island bridge case.

This bridge, from Rock Island to Davenport, was started in 1853 and was the first railroad bridge to span the Mississippi.

It encountered bitter opposition from rivermen, confronted with a new rival in transportation, as an "obstruction" to river traffic. In 1856, a steamboat was wrecked and destroyed by fire after it struck a pier of the bridge.

The rivermen tried to get such damages from the railroad company as to make maintenance of that and other bridges unprofitable. Lincoln argued in that case that "one man had as good a right to cross a river as another had to sail up or down."

He also inferred that the steamboat wreck wasn't entirely an "accident." The railroads finally won that case.

During the period of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, Lincoln made a speech on the evening of Oct. 9, 1858, at Burlington. He also may have talked at that time to a group of school children in Keokuk.

★ ★ ★

## Two Iowa Farms In Lincoln's Name

You've got to stretch the truth a lot to make an Iowa farmer out of Lincoln.

But the ownership of two farms, one of 40 acres in Tama county and the other of 120 acres in Crawford county, once was in Lincoln's name.

He obtained these farms on warrants issued to him in compensation for his services in the Black Hawk war.

## 1832 Campaign.

This was the campaign in 1832 when the Indian Chief Black Hawk sought to regain lands the whites had taken from his people.

Lincoln's war service was brief. He was captain of a volunteer company which was mustered out after a month, then re-enlisted as a private for another short term of service.

His outfit got as far north as Wisconsin when the company was disbanded. Lincoln's horse was stolen so he had to make his way home as best he could.

Of that war, Lincoln said he



Lincoln looked like this at the time of his Iowa visits. The picture was taken in 1860 after his election as president but before he had started to grow a beard.

did not see "any live, fighting Indians" but he did have "a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes."

Lincoln didn't use his land warrants for a good many years. The Tama county transfer of land was dated July 21, 1854, and the Crawford county farm near Denison came into his possession Sept. 10, 1860.

President Lincoln died without leaving a will and the Iowa farm lands were inherited by his widow and son, Robert Todd Lincoln.

The wife of Robert Todd Lincoln was Mary Harlan, daughter of Senator James Harlan of Iowa, who was a close friend of the president and who was nominated by Lincoln to serve in his cabinet as secretary of interior shortly before Lincoln's assassination.

## Title.

Title to the Iowa farm lands passed from the Lincoln family when they were sold by Robert Todd Lincoln and his wife.

The 40 acres in Tama county were sold in 1874 for \$500.

The Crawford county 120 acres sold in 1892 for \$1,300.

Present owner of the Tama

county tract—which is six miles northwest of Toledo and three miles southeast of Garwin—is Aaron Bowl.

The Crawford county tract, about five miles northwest of Denison, is part of a 240-acre farm now owned and operated by Martin H. Hansen.

The location of this farm has been marked by the Denison

D.A.R. chapter. A copper plate on a two-ton boulder carries this inscription:

"Land grant made to Abraham Lincoln for services rendered in the Black Hawk war, 1832."

Principal sources of material for this story are "Personal Recollections" by Greenville M. Dodge; "Lincoln and the Railroads," by John W. Starr, Jr.; and articles in the Annals of Iowa and Palimpsest.



## Secret of Mrs. Lincoln's Trunks Revealed

An exciting discovery in the Lincolniana field has come to light in Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Iowa Wesleyan College there maintains the old home of Sen. James Harlan whose daughter, Mary, married Robert Todd Lincoln in 1868. Personal items belonging to Mrs. Abraham Lincoln were left to Robert's wife, but what she did with them remained a secret until last summer.

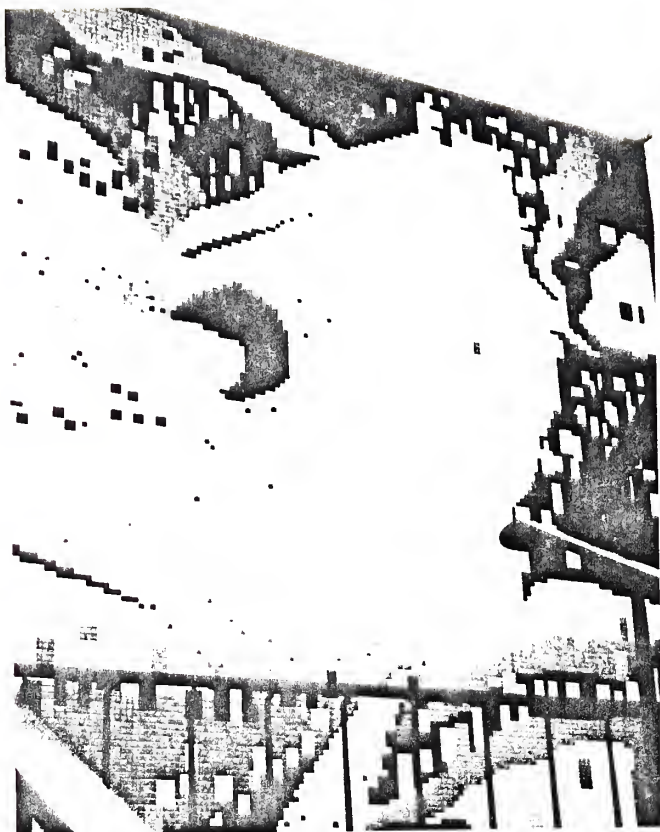
The information was found in a book written by Florence Snow, a niece of Senator Harlan. It is titled "Picture on My Wall"; it was given to Iowa Wesleyan in 1945 by the author, who described it as her "childhood life in Kansas." In one chapter Mrs. Snow tells about the

summer she spent in the Harlan home. She tells of the arrival of "sixty-odd trunks" for Mrs. Robert Lincoln to dismantle, and the manner in which this was done.

The book was catalogued and then forgotten until the summer of 1964 when, by sheer chance, the revealing chapter was discovered.

Some items from these trunks are now on display in the old Harlan Home.

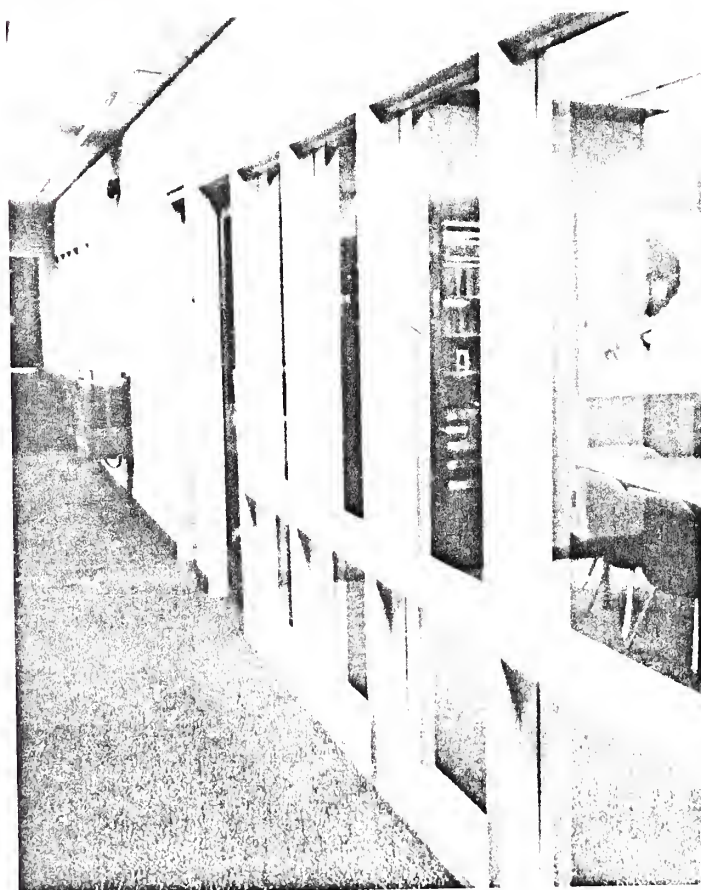
The February issue of Lincoln Lore devotes its entire issue to this new discovery and features the Harlan Home. Lincoln Lore may be obtained, at no charge, from the Lincoln Life Foundation, c/o Dr. Gerald McMurtry, Director, Ft. Wayne, Ind.



A three-story mosaic mural dominates the main stairwell of the library. It was designed by Stan Wiederspan, Head of the Art Department.



The lower level of the library contains extensive audio-visual equipment and individual and group listening rooms.



A student uses the quiet of the north, upstairs, conference room for some individual study.





